

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION AND PRIVACY ACTS

SUBJECT: AMERICA FIRST COMMITTEE

FILE NUMBER: 100-4712

PART: 8 OF 19



FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

FILE DESCRIPTION BUREAU FILE

SUBJECTA	merica First Committee
FILE NO	100-4712
SECTION NO.	8 -
SERIALS	371
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	403
	300

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION 12203

No. 1 CASE ORIGINATED AT		CHICAGO, ILLINOIS		PILE NO. 100-994	
	PHIS, TENNESSEE	5-22-12	FERTIOD FOR WHICH MADE 5-12,13,14,15, 18,20-42	CHARACTER OF CASE	b7c
	AMERICA FIRST C	CAMITTEE		INTERNAL SECURIT	Y - G
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	GENORIES DESTROYED	This investigation of reference which there the American with a view	ion is predicate ich requested in rica First Commis towards the usgroups in a man this country.	od upon Bureau committee is being kept the of this organisation to	nnications ortain in opera- tion by
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to these individuals would know of any operations on the part of the America First Committee in Nashville, Tennessee.

Agent Mashville, Tennessee, who advised that he had never leard of the America First Committee operating in any manner in Mashville, Tennessee. Further advised that if the subject Committee did operate at all in Mashville, or vicinity, he was sure that he would have heard of such operation.

Mashyille, Falated upon interview that he was formerly

First Committee had never operated in Nashville in any manner.

advised the agent that if the America First Committee should attempt in any manner to set up a functioning organization in Nashville or if individuals known to harbor "Isolationist" sympathies attempted to spread any such propeganda, he would immediately advise this office.

Nashville, advised that the America First Committee never operated in any manner in Nashville, Tennessee to the best of his knowledge.

AT JACKSON, TENNESSEE

The following investigation was conducted by Special Agent

In an effort to ascertain whether the subject Committee has ever operated or is now operating in Jackson. Tennassee or vicinity, Special Agent Contacted

Each of these individuals advised they were virtually positive that no chapter of the imerica First Committee ever emisted in Jackson, Tennessee or vicinity. Idkswise, they added that no organised group, whatever which professed sympathies akin to the America First Committee ever existed in this area. Each of these man stated in substance that if such an organise—tion had ever operated in Jackson, Tennessee, it was sure to have become known to them and each of them volunteered their cooperation with the Bureau, adding that should any information reflecting the activities of the subject Committee come to their attention, they would immediately report same to this office.

AT MEMPHIS, TENNESSEE

The following investigation was conducted by the writer.

It should be noted that on the might of Hovember 11, 1941, Special Agents attended a meeting of the Fight For Freedom Committee at the Psabody Hotal.

As reported by these agents, the Fight For Freedom Committee, after gathering at the Peabody Hotel, learned that another group of individuals was then meeting in another part of the Hotel, which group, thought to be associated with the America First Committee, was called for the purpose of protecting the repeal of the Neutrality Act. Agents for the Fight for Freedom Committee suggested that his group visit this meeting of the "Isolationists" and thereupon all members of the Fight For Freedom Committee, together with Agents and went in and joined the alleged America First Committee.

This latter group, according to the above agents, was led by MRS. C. ARTHUR BRUCE and the section of the Isolationist Group were MR. ROBERT L. MOBILEY and MR. A. HORACE MELLY. It was also noted that in attendance at this meeting were

According to the above mentioned agents' report, there insued a heated debate between representatives of the two groups of the advantages and disadvantages of the Neutrality Bill. No further information of value with respect to instant meeting was furnished by Special Agents

Memphis Commercial Appeal Newspaper for November 12, 1941, which related to the instant meeting, were secured. The first such article captioned "Citisens Meet On Neutrality Act - Heckled" advised in substance that members of the Fight For Freedom Committee marched into an Armistice Night meeting of agroup of about thirty-five citizens assembled at the Hotel Perbody to oppose Espeal of the Neutrality Act.

Continuing, the news article further advised that the scheduled meeting of those citisens opposing the repeal of the Neutrality Act had been called by MRS. C. ARTHUR ERUCE and MRS. RUTH C. TOWNRACH. It was stated that MR. A. HORACE KELLY of Kelly and Jamison Linotypers had the floor at the "time of the invasion by the Fight For Freedom Committee Members". The newspaper article in question reported that the Fight For Freedom Members heakled the speakers for the other group, charging them with being prolimibergh, antiRoosevelt and proMaxi. MR. KEME JOHNSON of the Fight For Freedom Committee, also charged, as reported in the newspaper, that this groupwas just "another renegade Lindbergh, Maxified America First Committee". "They did not use the name last night, but the Chairman, Mrs. Bruce, was personally a support of Lindbergh and his group of hireling Maxis". MR. JOHNSON also stated in the instant news article that the local Memphis Group was doing the same sork of

work the America First Committee is doing, and charging the Isolationist Group with "Jew-bating" demanded of MRS. BRUCE, the Chairman, as to whether she supported Lindbergh, Wheeler and his crowd. When so questioned, the news article reported that MRS. BRUCE had replied that she, personally, was a supporter of Lindbergh. She demied, however, that LINDBERGH had ever been guilty of "Jew-baiting". It was stated that about thirty members of the proMeutrality Isolationist Group signed a petition directed to the Congress against repeal of the Neutrality Act.

The second article with respect to the instant meeting, likewise appeared in the Memphis Commercial Appeal, under date of November 12, 1941, captioned "Peace Advocates In Uproar Following ProWar Invasion". This article bore the by-line BRUCE TUCKER and since the information contained in this article is substantially the same as reported hereinbefore, it will not be repeated.

respect to the proNeutrality Isolationist Group which held the meeting at the Peabody Hotel on the night of November 11, 1941. He advised that to the best of his knowledge, the group was closely akin in sympathies and purpose to the America First Committee. He stated, however, that after this initial meeting which was attended by a nebulous group of citizens of Memphis who advocated the Isolationist position, no organization was effected and, in his opinion, no further activities were carried on. He added that the militant activities of the Fight For Freedom Committee, together with American sentiment generally, at this period, was instrumental in preventing this group from ever attaining any wide support or working effectiveness in Memphis.

this Isolationist Group were ERS. C. ARTHUR BRUCE, wife of the President of the E. L. BRUCE LUMBER COMPANY of Memphis, who is known to have held deep fixed Isonlationist appraishes.

He added that they had always been exponents of a pacifist-isolationist point of view; however, he reported he could supply no information suggesting dangerous or unAmerican tendencies.

advised that

is well known in Memphis as an active liberal, if not radical. It was stated that

is known to be

and was active at one time on behalf of
the Spanish Loyalist Cause, aiding in securing contributions to this end
was described as a militant liberal, known to harbor Isolationst
sympathies. It was stated that she has taken one or two trips to South Merica

within the past several years and, according to the informant, this appears most unusual, in view of the small salary which her husband receives The purpose of these visits to South America was not known to the informant.

was likewise questioned with re

spect to the reputation of

but he could supply no detailed numbermation of value, merely stating that was thought to be a bitter opponent of this Administration's foreign policy.

could furnish no further information of value concerning other members of the instant proNeutrality Group.

upon contact that he knew little concerning the instant Isolationist Committee mentioned hereinbefore in this report. He advised, however, that MRS. C. ARTHUR BRUCE was a moving spirit in the organization which, in his opinion, never attained any importance and which, to the best of his knowledge, held only one meeting.

advised that he, himself, had become interested in the Fight For Freedom Committee at the instance of MR. WENDELL L. WILLKIE, Former Republican Candidate for President of the United States and as a result of his activities on behalf of this Committee he had incurred the displeasure of several of the old Republican families in Memphis, noteworthy among which were Mr. and Mrs. C. ARTHUR BRUCE. related that he was familiar with the "free for all" debate between members of the Fight For Freedom Committee and the instant Isolationist Group at the Hotel Peabody inMemphis on Armistice Night, 1941, but stated that he opposed the tactics employed by the Fight For Freedom Committee and felt that they defeated their own purpose by resorting to such rowdy tactics.

reported that his impression of In conclusion, the Neutrality Group headed by MRS. C. ARTHUR BRUCE was that it was composed of patriotic American citizens opposed to the Interventionist Policies of the Roosevelt Administration. He felt that there was no official connection whatever between this group and the America First Committee and added that he was sure that the group ceased to function after Pearl Harbor.

was contacted at nessee and was questioned with respect to the America First Committee, as well as the proNeutrality Group which held a meeting at the Hotel Peabody on advised that he was formerly November 11, 1941. and, in that connection, was aware of

the fact that an Isolationist Group did function for a short time in Memphis.

He stated that to the best of his knowledge, this group held only one meeting, which was the meeting referred to previously in this report. He advised that he was not then present at the meeting and, as a matter of fact, opposed his Committee's (The Fight for Freedom Committee) precipitating the fracas.

He advised that the other group was composed largely of women of the "It Han't Happen Here" variety, as well as pacifists and isolationists. He knew of no connection which the group had with the America First Committee and indicated that only one meeting was held, at which time a petition was sant to the Congress demanding repeal. It added that he knew of no unpatriotic or subversive individuals in the group.

upon interview advised that he had been a former member of the Fight For Freedom Committee until this group abandoned upon the advent of America's entry into the war. When questioned with respect to the America First Committee and any alleged affiliates thereof in Memphis, revealed that he was familiar with the small profsolationist Group which held one meeting at the Hotel Peabody on November 11, 1941. He considered this group totally harmless, advising that it was composed largely of women who, by reason of sentimentality, were opposed to America's entry into any war, stating that this group was led by MRS. C. ARTHUR BRUCE. He related that she was considered thoroughly patriotic, however, much misguided. He also added that this group had no organization and for the purpose of this one meeting attracted individuals of wide shades of political opinions. He stated that persons of a pasifist, socialistic and Communistic tinge allegedly attended this meeting and he added this was in stark contrast to the old-guard.

Republicanism of MRS. C. ARTHUR ERUCE

In conclusion, revealed that he had heard no information whatever concerning the group since America's entry into war and he advised that this group was the only thing which even remotely resembled an America First Committee in Memphis.

was interviewed with respect to the America First Committee at ms residence stated that he knew very little concerning the America-First Committee or any sympathizing organization in Memphis. He stated that he had read newspaper accounts of the meeting of the proNeutrality Group at the Peabody Hotel on Armis tice Night but added he was in no position whatever to furnish information with respect to its aims, purposes or memberships.

had attended the instant meeting at the Hotel Feabody,
was questioned about this individual. He reported that
he had only met perhaps once or twice and therefore could not
vouch for his character; however, he added that

is a Nationally Known Group composed, for themost part, of high-minded Christian pacifists, who se purpose is not to foment disunity, but rather to promote respect among the American people for persons holding to a truly pacifistic position.

had been forced to resign from this institution because of his pacifist views, the writer contacted and inquired of him as to whether any demonstration from Isolationist Groups or America First Committee Chapters had resulted pursuant to

dismissal!

connected protests as a result of dismissal from the faculty however, he added that these protests came rather from isolated individuals than from any organized group. He was unable to furnish any information, whatever, with respect to any America First Committee in Memphis or vicinity.

the was contacted and stated that he was familiar with the proNeutrality Group which held its meeting on Armistice Hight, 1941, at the Peabody Hotel. He added that he was not present at this meeting, with other members of the Fight For Freedom Committee, inasmuch as he disapproved of the "rough house tactics" employed by some members of that group.

He stated, however, that from comment heard subsequent to this meeting and from newspaper accounts, he had gathered that the instant isolationist group in Memphis, though not officially known as a chapter of the America First Committee, was definitely aligned with the group in its political sympathies.

It was stated that the group in Memphis espoused WHEELER and LIMDBERGH and was very much opposed to the Administration's foreigh policies. Continuing, and the devised that to the best of his knowledge the group had ceased to function altogether after this initial meeting and he added that he felt sure this one meeting was the only public expression of isolationist sentiment ever made in Memphis.

reputation of those individuals who attended this isolationist meeting; however, he said that they were for the most part, in his equinon, patriotic americans who were alsop until after Pearl Harbor.

In a further effort to develop complete information concerning

the instant isolationist group, mentioned hereinbefore in this report and to discover if possible whether any connection existed between this group and the America First Committee, the writer contacted

convictions with respect to so-called Isolationish were a matter of public record, inasmuch as in which he favored a nominterventionist foreign policy. He likewise indicated that his wife had shared his views and had not hesitated to express herself along these lines.

reported, however, that after America's entry into the war, it was too late to do anything but contribute an all-out effort towards victory. He indicated that his wife also felt the same way.

with respect to the instant Isolationist meeting
on November 11. 19/1.

and therefore knew very little concerning the meeting except what he had learned upon his returned. He advised that
is
a very militant woman with definite convictions and that she
together with other women in M mphis, who shared noninterventionist
views, decided to call a public meeting at the Hotel Peabody on the night of
N vember 11, 19/1.

advised that he knew nothing of the suggested meeting and he added that he would not have opposed it had he known. He stated that its members were composed largely of a few elderly women in town, together with other people who generally shared the semeview with respect to foreign policy.

the publicity received from the meeting and felt that the action of the Fight for Freedom Committee was totally unjustified. Nevertheless, advised that to his knowledge, those citizens attending this initial meeting never organised in any manner, nor did they formulate any program calling for permanent organization. He described the meeting as purely a public demonstration, by a small group, the purpose of which was to demonstrate for retention of the Neutrality Laws.

advised that he, himself, had been in sympathy with the America First Committee program, as had his wife, but he stated that neider of them was affiliated with the group and he added that the proNeutrality reting in Mamphis was not sponsored, nor did it have any connection with the America First Committee. He advised that he was not familiar with any group or chapter of the former America First Committee, which is at present operation.



ing in Temmessee, or even the Mation, a and he advised that in the event he received information to this effect, he would immediately get in touch with this office.

reported as being in attendance at the meeting of the Neutrality Group at the Peabody Hotel in Nemphis on November 11, 1941, was interviewed by the writer a which time she advised that she had learned

that a meeting of individuals opposed to the administration's foreign policy was scheduled for that date. November 11, 1941, at the Peabody Hotel.

She advised, however, that she had no official connection with the group, if such existed, prior to that time and she indicated that the one meeting was the only public expression of opposition to the interventionists that ever took place in Memphis.

at one time, members of the National subject Organization and had made contributions to its support. She stated, however, that the America First Committee disbanded immediately after Pearl Harbor and she said that she had not heard o its being revived in any form.

reporting that she was away from Memphis during most of 1941 and for that reason was not familiar with the local political situation.

She wolunteered her occoperation stating that she would furnish this office with any information relating to the America First Committee with she should learn.

There being no further investigation to be conducted in this matter in this Field Division, this case is accordingly being referred upon completion to the office of origin.

HEFERRED UPON COMPLETION TO THE OFFICE OF ORIGIN

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

	THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT CHI	CAGO, ILLINOIS		FILE N	5. 100-1395
	MEPONT MADE AT THE MOINES, ICHA	DATE WHEN MADE	HERIOD FOR WHICH MADE 5-21-42	REPORT MADE BY	bac
	AMERICA FIRST CO	MATTER	* ************************************	CHARACTER OF CAME. INTERNAL SECUR	ITY (G)
	29	originally became chapters were for Preliminary surv	e active in Ic rmed at Davenj ey indicates c and backed m	Lect America First own in June, 1941 port, Des Moines, committees activit only by prominent	when local and Dubuque, des in Iowa were
	REFERENCE LO	Bureau letter to		ated 3/16/42.	:
	36.00	AT DES MOINES, I			
	19-18-90 ALL INFORMATION CONTAINE WATER SCREEN S	is the result of had been volunte information in to information in to the America First of the Des Moines at Des Moines at Quarters of the Des Moines, Iowa A clipping taken is the first orgreported to have Executive Committee Moines attomates Moines attomates attomates attomates attomates and the second in the Moines attomates attomat	a review of sered to the D shis Division. It Committee of so Office when mounces the office when mounces the office First in the Des M from that payanisation of set up headed the Consisted ADMISON M. S. W. LOWRY, any, Des Moins	riginally came to a committee of in pening of the Des Committee at 200 coines Tribune of per states that the non-intervent warters in Des Moi of ROBERT J. BAN PARKER, all widely THERINE COLLINS, President of the	the attention addividuals Noines Head-Fifth Avenue, June 21, 1941. The Committee ionist type ines. The NISTER, y known 1120-23rd Street, Lakeshore Tire
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At the time the release was made to the press concerning the formation of the Executive Committee, Mrs. KATHERINE COLLINS stated that JANET AYED FATERANK, National Officer of the America First Committee, came to Des Moines about June 1, 1941 and called together a group of twenty-five or thirty persons who had shown interest in the organization by writing to the National Office.

In the Des Moines Register for June 22, 1941 there appeared an article reflecting that a meeting of the Dubuque Chapter of the America First Committee was held at Dubuque, Icwa, which was announced by HERBERT A HAUPTLIE, Chairman. At that meeting, a United States Senator, BURTON K. WHEELER, and Archbishop FRANCIS J. L. BECKMAN of Dubuque, who introduced Senator WHERLER, were the principal speakers and their speeches were carried on a nationwide radio network. HERBERT A. HAUPTLIE announced to the press at that time that the Dubuque Chapter had a membership of seven-hundred.

submitted by Special Agent dated November 26, 1941 at

Des Moines, advised that the Davenport, Iowa Chapter of the America First

Committee had moved its offices from a building on Fourth Street

He stated that his curiosity was first aroused when he heard some very derogatory remarks concerning the Jewish people, and also in view of the fact that most of the women patronizing the offices of the America First Committee appeared to speak broken English with a German accent.

He stated that he then began to listen to some of the conversation, and he produced several notes which he had taken while listening to some of this conversation. He stated that a who is unknown to him, recently stated that all Jews are lice and snakes from within; that Jews control all of the chain stores; and that the Russians and the English are gangster nations. This also heard conversations between and other unknown individuals, who insisted that ROCSEVELT should be impeached, and he stated that they frequently quote the editorial page of the Chicago Tribune, praising highly the derogatory remarks made by the Tribune concerning the administration. He stated that women are continuously going in and out of this office, and that he heard one woman explained that they are daily contacting new members in order to build up their membership, and this same person also indicated that the basic allows Jew who controls all of the newspapers.

further advised that on one occasion,

who is

known to the Des Moines Field Office, came into the offices of the America First Committee and talked to some young lady who appeared to be from the East, presumably from New York City. He stated that this young woman, who had a very decided Eastern accent, advised That she had only been in Davenport for a year, and during the conversation which followed, made the remark that ROOSEVELT had double crossed the American people, and stated that what the America First Committee needed was more displays such as the one which they presently maintained in their old office quarters on Fourth Street across from the Police Station. It should be mentioned at this point that the America First Committee has plastered the windows of this office building with various editorials from the Chicago Tribune, as well as cartoons and bulletins issued by the America First Committee. The aforementioned young lady went on to tell that only a few days previous, she had been speaking to whom she referred to as a supporter of the America First Committee, and told her one day that she was looking at the clippings that and posters dislayed in the Fourth Street Office when a soldier in uniform came along and also began looking at these clippings. According to this young woman, talked to the soldier, asking him what he was fighting for and questioning him about conditions in the army. According this young lady also advised or someone else that she intended again to see if she could not get more money for the America First Committee. This latter remark would indicate that has already made some contribution.

an officer of the local America First Committee,
ande the statement that the Germans have never done anybody any harm, and
has generally berated RCCSEVELT, the administration, and anyone who seems
to be in sympathy with democracy. He further stated that most of the
people coming to the America First Committee office seem to talk broken
English with a German accent, and he is very much of the opinion that these
people are carrying their beliefs to an extent which is entirely unpatrictic
as well as unethical. Propinted out that he realised his position in
this affair, and stated that he would not object to an honest difference
of opinion. He went on to point out, however, that the remarks he has
heard have led him to believe that the people now running the America First
Committee in Davenport are decidedly un-American, and, in fact, appear to
be entirely in sympathy with the Maxi regime and philosophy.

All of these individuals are known by the Des Moines Division to be reputable and patriotic; however, they are, for the most part, members of the Republican Party and have been strong isolationists and anti-administration

From a review of the files, there doesn't appear to be any information to indicate that any of the leaders of the America First Committee in Iowa were disloyal or unpatriotic in any manner. However, there does appear to be information, as reflected previously in this report, that the local chapters of the America First Committee, especially the Davenport, Iowa Chapter, were gathering places for Nazi sympathisers and persons of Axis sympathies.

-UNDEVELOPED LEADS-

THE DES MOINES FIELD DIVISION

AT DES MOINES, ICHA

Will develop confidential informants and conduct investigation for the purpose of ascertaining whether or not the structure set up by the America First Committee in Icwa is now being used by foreign interests of by individuals cooperating with foreign interests in such a manner as to interfere with the war effort.

AT DAVENPORT, IOMA

Will conduct similar investigation.

AT DUBUQUE, IOWA

Will conduct similar investigation.

FBI/DOJ

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION FOIPA DELETED PAGE INFORMATION SHEET

Page(s) withheld entirely at statements, where indicated,	this location in the file. One explain this deletion.	or more of the following
Deletions were made pursua available for release to you.	nt to the exemptions indicated	below with no segregable material
Section	<u>552</u>	Section 552a
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request. Information pertained only to that agency(ies) for revie Pages contain information for	to a third party. Your name is another Government agency(ies w and direct response to you. urnished by another Government e releasability of this informat	s). These documents were referred
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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

		CHICAGO, ILLINOIS	LOUISVILLE FILE) 'w.
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	57C	that no subsequent activity	y in subject organiza	and advises tion at Louisville,
	94	for an America First Rally BERGH's Des Moines speech,	September, 1941, afte	rille until LIMD- er which he dropped
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A STEETE OF	DETAILS: Pepresentative Appreved AND PORWARDED: 5 Bure Chic	Bureau letter dated March Bureau letter dated March Bureau teletype to all Fie The Louisville Times newsp ele relating the fact that ea First Committee were in of the subject organization	riliated with this or advises tember, 1941, who star First Committee. - P - 16, 1942, 1d Divisions dated May seper of June 5, 1941, preparations for a resugurated by 0. K. Arm in the early part of	ganization since that he was ap- ted they were as- y 11, 1942, coarried an arti- ally of the Ameri- astrong, Field June, 1941,

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was contacted by the writer in connection with another case and mention was made of the fact that in connection with the America First Committee Marly. He freely volunteered the information that there had been no activity in the city of Louisville by the subject organization after the attempt to stage a rally at the Municipal Auditorium in the early part of June, 1941. He did state, however, that some time in the latter part of the summer in 1941, two men did approach him and

and that he declined this proffered posi-

he was not in a position to accept and further that he was not in complete accord with the program of the America First Committee. He stated that he did not recall the names of the individuals who approached him and that he had not given it a second thought until the matter was brought up by the writer.

called at the Louisville Field Division as a result of a telephonic conversation with the writer and offered the following information with respect to the subject organization: He stated that his wife had written to the America First Committee in the early part of 1941 to obtain more complete information regarding this Committee's program. He stated that most likely as a result of her communications, Mr. O. K. ARMSTRONG, a field representative of the America First Committee, contacted him and advised that he would be in the city of Louisville sometime in June, 1941, and he requested that assist him in for an America First Rally. stated that he was personally interested in the America First Committee in ascertaining the nature of their program. He stated that he liked to learn both sides of the question which was of paramount interest at that time, that is, the entry of the United States into war; and that in conjunction with this interest, he volunteered to do whatever he could to purpose of holding the proposed rally. He further stated that Mr. ARMS-TRONG contacted him and stated that he would hold a luncheon in Louisville in the early part of June, 1941, and that he wanted and his wife to attend and at that time more definite arrangements would be made for the further staging of the proposed America First Rally.

Louisville,

the above enumerated individuals were in attendance.

ther stated that he attended this luncheon only after he had been assured by Mr. APMSTRONG that there would be no publicity in connection therewith, but that several hours after the luncheon had terminated he picked up the Louisville Times newspaper and noted that an account of it together with the publication of his name and the others who were in attendance. To continue,

staging of the proposed Rally and that he had been promised that Senator WHEELER or LINDBERGH would make a speech in the Auditorium. He added, however, that the proposed Rally was postponed twice and never did materialize.

further stated that he had done considerable public work in an effort to ascertain the public's sentiments toward the holding of the proposed rally but that all of his efforts were to satisfy his curiosity in connection with the entry into war in question and that at no time did he have any political interest. He stated that after CHARLES A. LINDBERCH made his speech at Des Moines, Iowa, in September, 1941, and upon observing the caustic criticism thereof, he abandoned the entire project and has heard nothing of it since that time. He assured the writer that the organization in the Louisville area is defunct, and as far as he knows there is no activity on the part of anyone to revive it.

and that he was approached in September, 1941, by two men at his home whom he had never seen before. He stated that one of these men showed him a calling card on which were printed the names WHEELER - NYE - LINDBERGH, and

He further stated that these men introduced themselves as He stated that appeared to be the spokesman and requested that attend a meeting to be held by the America First Committee at Vernon Hall on Storey Avenue, Louisville, Kentucky. Two or three days from the date of this visit was the date the meeting was to be held. He further stated that extolled the virtues of the America First Committee platform and stated that they had quite an organization of Bundists in the vicinity of Louisville. advised the writer that he did not attend the meeting to which he was invited and had heard no more from either regarding the meeting. that he made some inquiries into the background of

but was unable to ascertain anything definite regarding any possible un-Americanism.

UNDEVELOPED LEADS

LOUISVILLE FIELD DIVISION

AT LOUISVILLE: Will re-contact and arrange to have him contact in order to obtain further information regarding the possibility of the continued existence of the America First Combility of the Louisville area and any activities it might be engaged in.

DENDING -

IDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION OF JUSTICE

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100-4712

To: COMMUNICATIONS SECTION.

MAT 26, 1942

Transmit the following message to:

ALL SAC'S MICHET

11 11-0-18-90 [SP885] CIL

ATLANTA
CINCIPHATI
ECHOLULU
EUNTINGTON
KNOXVILLE
FROENIX
FORTLAND
ST. PAUL
GAVANNAH
DALLAS
KANSAS CITT
INDIANAPOLIS
GRAND RAPIDS

JACKSON
LITTLE ROCK
HEN YORK
HONFOLK
SAN DIRGO
SEATTLE
EPPINGFIELD

AMERICA FIRST COMMITTEE; INTERNAL SECURITY - C. RETEL MAY ELEVENTH LAST. IMPEDIATE COMPLIANCE WITH PREVIOUS REQUEST DESIRED.

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CONTROL OF JELTICE

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

100-1957 FILE NO. HIS CASE ORIGINATED AT CHICAGO b7C MONICH MADE 5/13,20/42 DATE WHEN MADE TA BOAM THOUSE 5-21-42 SAN JUAN, PUERTO RICO CHARACTER OF CASE THYRRNAL SECURITY-G AMERICA FIRST COMMITTEE Investigation conducted San Juan Field Division indicates subject organisation never active in this area. Bureau letter dated March 16, 1942. REFERENCE Bureau rediegrem to the San Juan Field Division dated May 11, 1942. This investigation is predicated upon request set out DETAILS: in reference letters advised that he has never heard of subject erganization existing in Poerto Rico. advised that subject erganization has never existed In Puerto Rico. A check of the files of the San Juan Field Division fails to indicate that subject erganisation ever existed in this area. advised that he has never heard of subject erganisation in Puerto Rico. THE OFFICE OF ORIGIN -* REFERRED UPON COMPLETICE (S)Bureau 2-Chicago L-San Juan

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION FOIPA DELETED PAGE INFORMATION SHEET

available for release to you.	•	ow with no segregable materia
Section 5	<u>52</u>	Section 552a
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Information pertained only t	o a third party. Your name is li	sted in the title only.
Documents originated with a to that agency(ies) for review	nother Government agency(ies). v and direct response to you.	These documents were referre
	rnished by another Government	agency(ies). You will be following our consultation
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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

T	HIS CASE ORIGINATED AT CH	CAGO, ILL.		NH ARTE NO	- 100-1585
- }	REPORT MADE AT	DATE WHEN MADE	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE	SHEPORT MADE BY	baca
_	NEW HAVEN, CONN.	5/26/52	5/15,14,15,19, 21,22,25/42	20,	
<i>,</i>	AMERICA FIRST O	XLGITTER		INTERNAL SECU	RITY - G
9:46	SYNOPSIS OF FACTS:) PSEUDON OB-81-013-141	Tale University regarding their poll showed a was carried by of Chicago, Il conference white First Committee the nation wid State of Conneas such. All sent to Chicag for inspection desired them. Officers of the	r feelings toware feelings toware feelings toware three feelings toware large feelings toware large feelings three feelings feeli	of the Stamford re to be kept an amittee or the immittee or the immettions noted in connecticut set of the set out	lents at Yale lies. The aid. The result a. General Wood Chicago for a the America at members of the groups in the out of existence branch were ad be available BI if they an Connecticut. out and informa-
1	REFERENCE:		to all SACs dat be to all SACs d		٠.
-	DETAILS:	AT BRIDGEPORT,	CONNECTICUT		
إِجَّا	•	In the New Hay	en file there i	s a letter dated	i 4/18/41 from
COPIES DES	0.10	information for	he City of Brid		had asked
	APPROVED AND PORWARDED:	Brecial Admir		BO NOT WRITE IN THEME SE	- · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·
	22 4	The second second	P/00 - 4	7/2-378	EOGRDED & OF A
-	5 - Bureau 2 - Chicago 2 - New Haven	301	MAY	7 1942	TY - 55

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he was thinking of joining the Committee.

was contacted on 5/13/42 regarding subject organisation had joined the organization, and if he had would and whether it be advisable for the reporting agent to contact had joined the organization and had been active stated that in it during the time that it was operating in Bridgeport. He further stated was a very reliable man and that he could be contacted that | went on to state that without any fear of exposure. was a firm believer in the theories of Father Coughlin and that he was a went on to state that subscriber of the paper "Social Justice". the America First Committee has gone out of existence in and around Bridgeport and that there is no mention of it at the present time.

was contacted and he advised that he had been a member of the America First Committee of the Bridgeport group. He stated that Mrs. FRANCIS PHILLIPS was secretary of this group which included Norwalk, Fairfield, Bridgeport, and Stratford. He stated that there were, according to Mrs. Phillips, approximately 750 members of their organization. Claimed that the organization had gone out of existence at the time of Pearl Harbor and that there were no activities at the present time. He claimed that he saw nothing during his membership that would lead him to believe that it was un-American to the slightest extent.

He stated that they had attempted to keep the branch in Bridgeport open to all people; that they were not anti-Semitic in beliefs or actions. He stated that after Lindbergh gave his speech in which he attacked the Jews that interest in the group somewhat slackened in Bridgeport. He stated that they had been careful in the selection of membership in that they attempted to keep out of it members of foreign inspired groups. The Bridgeport group had held a number of rallies; at one of these the speaker was Norman Thomas, former candidate on the Socialist ticket for President.

went on to state that there were only five branch groups in the State of Connecticuts The Bridgeport Branch, the Stamford Branch, the Waterbury Branch, the New Haven Branch, and the Hartford Branch. He did not know what the total membership of these groups would be. He stated that Mr. HOWARD A. Saith was President of the Bridgeport Branch. Mr. Smith is President of the La Resista Corset Co. in Bridgeport. He stated that although Smith was President, the main part of the activities of the Branch had been carried on by Mrs. Phillips who was very rabid in her opinions.

was contacted and he stated that to the best of his knowledge the America First Committee had gone out of emistence upon the entrance of the United States into the War.

AT STALFORD, CONNECTICUT:

regarding the subject organization. He stated that this organization has gone out of existence in Stamford; that there was an organization there and that the leading men in this group were Dr. GREGORY MASON of Riverside, who was Chairman of the Stamford Branch; JAMES L. DASHIELL of Stamford, who was secretary, and REV. ILOYD F. WORLEY, also of Stamford, who was Treasurer. He advised that for more detailed information, the contacted; that he was entirely reliable and dependable.

was then contacted at his home at and he stated that
which had been run on a voluntary basis with very little or ganization. He stated that they were having a meeting on the morning of Sunday, December 7, 1941, when the first word came through regarding the attack on Pearl Harbor. That night they held a meeting at which it was decided to disband the organization. He stated received a telegram from JAMES L. Tallow of Chicago in which it was stated that all records, funds, etc. should be mailed to General Wood in Chicago. Fallon signed the telegram as being from the organization department, records to be mailed to General R. Effector, C/o Mr. DUNDERSON, Department 176, Sears-Roebuck and Co., 925 South Homan Avenue, Chicago, Thl. He stated mailed these records

He stated that his understanding was that the records were to be kept in Chicago and were to be available to representatives of the Dies Committee or to the FBI if they so desired.

He claimed they had nothing to hide in their records; that there were no foreign connections and no subversive activities. He stated that they had been very particular in the selection of membership to the Committee in Stamford and although Stamford is a community in which there are a large number of bund members that none of these were in the organization. He

further stated that they did not have any Jewish members in the organization. During the conversation with the it was very apparent that he was against the Jews, in all his thoughts and opinions. He was always claiming that the Jews were the Communists in that area and that they did not want any of these in their organization.

further stated that they did not have any connection with Father Coughlin or Social Justice; that they did not believe in his philosophy. At one of their meetins held in Stamford, members of the Social Justice from New York had come to this meeting and had attempted to give away and sell copies of this magazine at the door. He stated that he had spoken to the police at that time and had them removed, as this was against the City Ordinance to distribute papers on the sidewalk. He stated that they had also had a run-in once later with this New York group.

stated that they had approximately 1,000 members in the Stamford Branch which included Stamford, Greenwich, and Norwalk, and the small communities in this vicinity. He stated that the reason for the organization ceased to exist at the time of Pearl Harbor and that the organization had gone out at that time. The Executive Committee of the Stamford Branch was composed of Mrs. E. M. HUNT, Stamford; Mrs. W. H. FAIN, Greenwich; Rev. HAROLD B. LILSON of Greenwich; Mrs. DANIEL GREGORY MASON, New Canaan; Mrs. HERBERT LETONE, New Canaan; KENNETH MALSER, Darlen; and Mrs. MILTON MACAULEY, Riverside.

was re-contacted in regard to information supplied by verified the information that they had been very careful in the membership of the committee; that they had not allowed members of the Bund or Jews to be members of the Committee. Further stated that all the members of the Executive Committee were very good Americans, reliable and dependable; that he did not believe that there were any foreign controlled groups connected with this organization; and that they have completely gone out of existence since the attack on Pearl Harbor.

AT NEW HAVEN, CONNECTICUT:

A search was made in the newspaper morgue of the New Haven Register and it was ascertained that the Chairman of this group was GUY H. LAGORE; that the sponsors were RICHARD W. BISSELL, Professor of Economics at Yale University; Professor FREB RODRIL of Tale Law School; Mr. TENDELL HENDERSON, fetired Yale Professor; Rev. R. H. CLAPP, Pastor of the United Church; JAMES K. FLACK, and J. FREDERICK KELLY.

32

Hembers of the Advisory Board were Mrs. KDWIN MYBORCHARD; EUGENE AND DAVIDSON; J. STEPHEN KNIGHT; Miss KATHERINE HOKER; REV. C. LAWSON WILLIARD; GORDON S. HAIGHT; DEANE KELLER; IMMAN SPITZER, Jr.; and ROBERT E. MONTGOMENY. There was also a newspaper clipping which stated that Mr. R. DOUGLAS STUART, Jr., had formulated the America First Committee and the Yale students were the first members of the now nation wide organization. He had formulated this organization while a student at Yale in the Spring of 1940.

regarding this organization and regarding ROBERT DOUGLAS STUART.

stated that Stuart had come out very much opposed to CHARLES SEYMOUR'S
(President of Yale University) proposal for all aid to the Allies. Mr.
Stuart believed that President Saymour did not speak for the majority of
the members of Yale University. He therefore decided to conduct a poll of
the Yale University students regarding aid to the Allies. This poll was
conducted during the month of June, 1940 and results showed three to one
in Stuart's favor. After this poll there was a nation-wide coverage in the
associated Press news didpatches.

General Wood of Chicago then contacted Mr. Stuart and asked him to come to Chicago for a conference. The America First Committee was the result of this conference in Chicago. The Committee was then organised and Mr. Stuart was made National Director and Secretary.

Mr. Stuart is the son of ROBERT DOUGLAS STUART, Executive Vice President of the Quaker Cats Co. of Chicago. His home address is 141 West Jackson Boulevard, Chicago, Ill. Mr. Stuart holds a B.A. Degree from Princeton in 1957. He entered the Yale Law School in 1959 and left in 1940 to accept a position with the America First Committee at 1806 Board of Trade Building, Chicago, Ill.

the Deans and other members of the University faculty regarding the Committee and they stated that the Committee was completely dissolved with the entry of the United States into the War. Of the group of boys at the University who were more or less pushing the group a number of them are now in the military or naval service. He stated that this group were not pacifists but were more isolationists; although there were a few pacifists in the group.

had talked to him regarding the America First Committee and that Stuart felt that it was a personal calling for him to leave school and act as director or the organization. He made the request of the Law School in order that

he could re-enter later. further stated that after Pearl Harbor that Mr. Stuart had re-contacted him and had stated that the entire picture had been changed and that he now was determined to enter some branch of the military service.

He stated that and that he now understood that he was in some branch of the service. He stated that before Pearl Harbor Stuart was an out and out isolationist but that now he was 100% back of the Government efforts.

was contacted and he advised that there are no activities of the America First Committee at the present time. He stated that they were active at one time but that all of the members were responsible citizens and he considered that they were entirely reliable Americans. He knew nothing derogatory regarding the organization.

AT WATERBURY, CONNECTICUT:

and he stated that at the present time the America First Committee is not active in and around Waterbury. According to information that he had received the America First Committee was dissolved by orders of the National Branch about a week after the start of the War. He stated that the Chairman of the Committee was JOHN PESTA, employee of the Lux Clock Co.; FREB ERAZ, and E. JACKSON NIAN. He stated that this organization was in his opinion used somewhat by Ryan who was a candidate at that time for Congress on an anti-War platform. It was his opinion that Ryan was using it for his own purposes.

In the Waterbury Branch there were a number of Germans of pro-Nazi feelings who were members of the organisation but he did not believe that it was foreign controlled or inspired. The did not advise contacting any of the former officers as he deemed it inadvisable.

was contacted and he stated that the America First Committee was no longer in existence. He checked his records and found a clipping on 12/18/41 stating that the America First Committee was dissolving in the interests of national unity. The funds of the organization were being distributed among men of Waterbury in camps throughout the country. This dissolution was on the

order of General Wood of Chicago. He also had another clipping which was from the United Press Service in Chicago and was dated 12/12/41 which gave information that the organization was being dissolved but that they still believed in the principals that they had followed and that there would be no war if these principals had been followed, but that they were now 100% for victory.

The records showed that JOHN FESTA, was President or Chairman of the group. that he is a naturalized citizen of Italian descent. There was nothing in their records derogatory regarding him. Other members of the organization were LORETTA HESPELT, who was Secretary, and Mr. E. JACKSON RIAN or Thomaston, tonn. Mr. Ryan has been active in political matters throughout the area.

and he stated that the America First Committee was dissolved and was not at present holding meetings. He stated that Father J. F. DOWNELLY had been connected with this committee. He stated that in the organization JOHN FESTA had been President and Father DOWNELLY had been Vice President. He advised against contacting Father Donnelly as Father Donnelly is at present writing editorials for the Waterbury Democrat. His articles are somewhat critical of the Government and the war efforts. He stated, if an agent contacted him that it would be in the paper.

AT HARTFORD, CONNECTICUT:

was contacted regarding the subject organization and he stated that they were not in existence at the present time and that during the time they were in existence that they had had no complaints against the organization. He stated that the members of the organization were very high type people; that they were all considered good citizens and subjects of the United States. He stated that was one of the leading men in this

sommittee, He advised against contacting

He stated that none of the manners of the Committee could be said to be un-American. He stated that there there were no outside connections to his knowledge.

who stated that he did not have very much information regarding subject organisation. He stated that they were apparently OK, composed of good Americans, respectable citizens. He stated that for information regarding this organization to see the stated that the stated that is entirely reliable and dependable and information that he would give would be right.

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was contacted and he stated that he had been opposed to this organization from its beginning. He stated that the organization was composed of all the Irish in and around Hartford; that they were anti-British, not pro-anything, merely against England. He stated that these folks were not foreign controlled or sponsored but were merely a group of what he believed were isolationist. There were a few pacifists in the group. He stated that there were a few German members of the group but they were not in a position to control the activities of the group. He stated that the head of the Hartford Branch was Mr. WILLIAM P. BISSELL of the Hartford Fire Insurance Co. of Hartford. He stated that there were a number of large rallies held in Hartford by this Committee but that there were no activities since the declaration of war. The list-of officers and members as given were:

WILLIAM T. DISSELL: Chairman. , West Hartford Executive Committee: GEORGE K. WHITNEY, , West Hartford CAYER DOWINICK. Bloomfield BICE CLAMON. West Hartford PAUL P. SMETT, Jr. DOUGLAS B. WRIGHT. West Hartford West Hartford A. HENRY MOSES. Hartiord GEORGIA WALL KUZAK TIMOTHY W. COODERICH III. . Bloomfield, Conn.

He went on to state that all of these people were 100% Americans, nothing derogatory, with the exception of

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UNDEVELOPED LEADS:

THE CHICAGO FIELD DIVISION

AT CHICAGO, ILLINOIS

Will attempt to determine if ROBERT DOUGLAS STUART has entered the military service as reported.

Will attempt to secure permission to examine records of organiza-

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

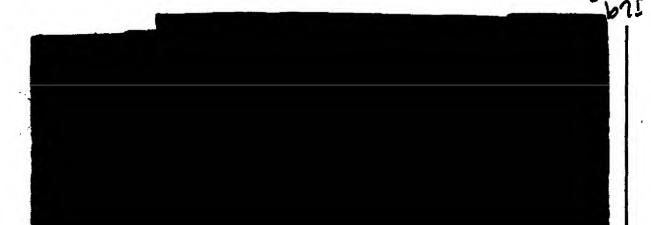
	FORTH NO. 1 THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT CHICAGO, ILLINOIS			FILE NO	
	REPORT MADE AT OCTATIONA CITY	5-25-42	FERIOD FOR WHICH MADE 5-20-82	REPORT MADE BY	b7C
4	AMERICA PIRS	T COMMITTEE		CHARACTER OF CASE INTERNAL SEC	URITT - G
	SYNOPSIS OF FACTS:	presently act:	ive in Oklahom MACK SCHRODES	First Committee a. Additional , who was shair- tee, Tulsa, Okla-	
	man de falt	home, set for	th herein. -RUC-	ALL PERSONAL AND AREA OF THE PERSONAL PROPERTY	ATION CONTAIN
	REFERENCE:	Bureau telety	pe dated May 1	1, TAIÈ 10-18.0	10 PY SP8B DY
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	of the Amer	erica First Commind he believes the ica First Committed him At Oklahoma Committed At Oklahoma Committed Mindows Committe	ttee has been at if there was see, some of hi	s any such activise contacts within	Tulsa since the ity on the part
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	APPROVED AND FORWARDED:	James	> (47) 4	DO NOT WRITE IN THESE	RECORDED
	5 Bureau 2 Chicago	HIS MID-OME.	5 MAY	271842	INDEXED
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A news item appearing in the Tulsa Tribune, December 8, 1941, reflected that MACK/SCHRODES, Chairman of the Tulsa Chapter of the America First Committee issued a statement to the press to the effect that there was no further use for the America First Committee unless they sould help the country and expressed the spinion of being wholeheartedly for the war and that the committee must now switch to a policy of backing the government.

By letter dated April 1, 1942, the Bureau furnished a photostatic copy of a news item which appeared in the P.M. Daily, New York City, en March 24, 1942, which reflected that MACK SCHRODES had been active in meetings held in Tulsa, Oklahoma, for the purpose of demanding the stopping of strikes in industries which should be working twenty-four hours per day in making national defense materials and for the suspension of the forty-hour week.

At Tulsa, Oklahoma



MACE SCHRODES in a recent city election in April, 1942 at Tulsa, ran for water commissioner on the independent ticket.

REFERRED UPON COMPLETION TO OFFICE OF CRICIF

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION FOIPA DELETED PAGE INFORMATION SHEET

Section	<u>1 552</u>	Section 552a
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request. Information pertained only Documents originated with to that agency(ies) for rev Pages contain information advised by the FBI as to	y to a third party with no reference y to a third party. Your name is li h another Government agency(ies). riew and direct response to you. furnished by another Government the releasability of this information	sted in the title only. These documents were reference agency(ies). You will be
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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION FOIPA DELETED PAGE INFORMATION SHEET

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FBI/DO

Sederal Bureau of Investigation

United States Department of Sustice Washington, D. C.

May 26, 1942

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100-6882

Director, Federal Bureau of Investigation, Washington, D. C.

> Re: OAMERICA FIRST COMMITTEE; INTERNAL SECURITY - G

Dear Sir:

Reference is made to the report of Special Agent dated May 26, 1942, at Washington, D. C.

670

JOHN ROYKCARLSON, believed to be from New York City, author of an article entitled "Inside the America First Movement," published in American Mercury, 54:7-25, January, 1942, states that he has worked for three years as an under-cover man in the Nazi Fascist underworld of America; that he has been a card-bearing member of eleven pro-Fascist organizations, and has been friendly with leaders of subversive groups, such as FRITZ/KUHN, head of the German-American Bund, JOSEPH/MCWILLIAMS, head of Christian Mobilizers, and JAMES/TRUE. His article reflects that he maintains files containing considerable information about these various groups and also about the America First Committee and its subversive connections.

Very truly yours,

REN IS

S. K. McKEE,

Special Agent in Charge or

Letter Man War

DADE XED

100-4712-379

MAY 27 1942

U.S. DEPARTOR CONT.

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IN FILE France

AECORDED 100-4712 -379

June 10, 1942

Special Agent in Charge New York, New York

RE: AMERICA FIRST COMMITTEE; EMTERNAL SECURITY - G

Dear Sire

Special Agent dated May 26, 1942, at Washington, D. C., and a letter of the same date emanating from the Washington Field Office in the above-captioned matter.

It will be noted that

from the enclosed report that the

It will be noted

Very truly yours,

Mr. Toloon

Mr. E. A. Tamm

Mr. Clore

Mr. Glavin

Mr. Ladd

Mr. Michole

Mr. Rosen

COMMUNICATIONS SECTION

Mr. Carson

Mr. Carson

Mr. Coffey

Mr. Headen

Mr. Headen

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Mr. McGuire

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Mr. Quinn Tamm

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Deral Bureau of Investigation

United States Department of Justice



Eashington, D. C. May 26, 1942

Director. Federal Bureau of Investigation, Mashington, D. C.

Re: OAMERICA FIRST COMMITTEE; INTERNAL SECURITY - G.

Dear Sir:

Reference is made to the report of Special Agent dated May 26, 1942, at Washington, D. C.

It will be noted that the America First Committee local chapter in Washington, D. C., was formed and most of its activities were completely under the direction of Senators, Congressmen, their wives, and other prominent persons connected with the government in Washington, D. C.

No investigation is contemplated regarding these persons unless otherwise advised by the Bureau.

Very truly yours,

S. K. MCKEE, Special Agent in Charge

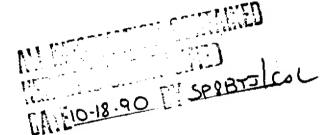
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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

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STEPHAN TORNAY.

W. E. DE WITT, Salt Lake City, Utah.

A review of the file in the Salt Lake City Field office reflects that a complaint received indicated that at the University of Utah was pro-German in his sentiments, but investigation conducted

failed to substantiate this allegation.

The files of the Salt Lake City Field Office reflect

that is listed as being reported as being anti-English and anti-Semitic:

the America First Committee in Salt Lake City had folded up completely after the United States became involved in the present war, in accordance with the announced national policy of the organization and that no information had come to his attention reflecting that any of its leaders had indicated that they were not in sympathy with the United States in the present conflict.

In the presence of the writer, contacted who is very close to in a business/and discussed several other business and social matters over the telephone which had in common with

During the course of the interview or conversation, asked if subject organization had completely folded up or just what had happened to it, as nothing had been heard of its activities in recent months. Stated that informed him that as far as he knew, and it was his honest belief, subject organization had discontinued its existence.

discreet inquiries of

and who would have first-hand

knowledge as to whether or not of that concern was presently involved in any activities related in any way to his former connection

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with the America First Committee.

and that was a thoroughly reliable and patriotic citizen. advised that he could bring up subject organization in conversation with arousing any undue curiosity as to the reason of his inquiries.

advised that he was not familiar with the activities of the America First Committee other than what was generally known to the public; that the members of the America First Committee in Salt Lake City, Utah, were well aware of the antagonism which had always held toward their organization, and that in his discussions with them heated arguments had always resulted.

stated that before the America First Committee was organized, 172. J. W. STALLINGS, WALTER COSGRIFF, and several others who were very isolationist in their views had asked him to speak before their organization which was called some patriotic name.

Stated that after arriving at the meeting, he noticed from their conversations and through the talks previous to his that the organization was strongly isolationist and for that reason he did not deliver his prepared speach but lectured those present severely for their isolationist views.

above he had never stayed on a very friendly relationship with any of the America First Committee members after they formed subject organization. He stated, however, that no word had come to him from any source since war was declared which would indicate that any of the former committee members were carrying on any type of activity. He stated, however, on second thought that someone, name not recalled, had recently informed him that was affiliated with some type of organization. Was unable to recall whether the allegation included that was affiliated with any organization having antagonism toward the Governments present war policy.

given him this information and what the information contained and would subsequently advise this office. He explained that he had not paid particular attention to the information given him relative to at the time.

suggested that the be contacted, as was well acquainted with Mrs. J. W. STALLINGS, who was probably the most active member of the America First Committee at the height of its activities.

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upon interview, advised that he had never been intimately acquainted with Mrs. J. W. STALLINGS, but that he had been a life long acquaintance with the whole was an active member of the America First Committee when that organization was functioning. He stated that he and had on several separate occasions had heated arguments as a result of extremely isolationist policies and her America First Committee activities. He stated, however, that these heated arguments had never interrupted their life long friendship or the business dealings which they occasionally had.

Mrs. J. W. STALLINGS was present and she entered into the argument also, and that he, also "told her off." stated that he never at any time doubted the motives in belonging to the America First Committee. He stated that she came from an old pioneer Mormon family in Utah and he always co sidered her patriotism beyond question. He stated that arranges various tours over the country and during the past year had arranged a tour through the office of for a group of people going to that she was shocked and alarmed at the pro-Nazi sentiment indicated by a great many people, as evidenced by the cheers in the moving picture theaters when HITLER'S picture was shown.

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During Agents conversation with called the Informant on the telephone relative to a business transaction and in the presence of the writer duestioned her relative to the activities of the America First Committee.

On completion of the telephone call stated that that advised him that subject Committee completely disolved after the bombing of Pearl Harbor and that none of its members or officials had ever contacted her relative to using the organization for new activities whatsoever.

PENDING

UNDEVELOPED LEADS

THE SALT LAKE CITY FIELD DIVISION

AT SALT LAKE CITY, UTAH

Will again contact to ascertain if he obtained anything of value from which would indicate that was using subject organization for any subversive activities.

Will contact to ascertain if he can recall the information rurnished him indicating that might be linked up with some organization at the present time which may have a bearing in connection with instant case.

Salt Lake City, Utah, if additional inquiries reflects that she is thoroughly reliable relative to the various Chapters and State-wide setup of the America First Committee and any possible activities which might be presently conducted in other localities in Utah other than Salt Lake City.

AT RENO, NEVADA

Through Confidential Informants and appropriate sources will ascertain if any individuals or groups may be using the America First Committee in a manner detrimental to the internal security of this country.

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION FOIPA DELETED PAGE INFORMATION SHEET

<u>Section</u>	<u> 552</u>	Section 552a
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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

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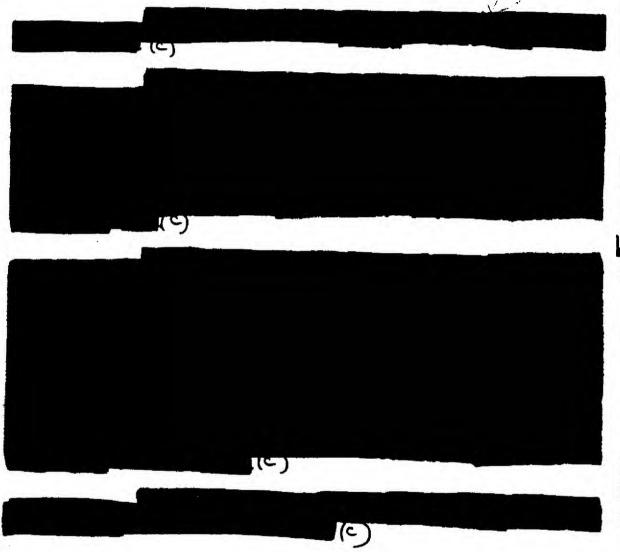
REFERENCE:

Bureau letter to all field offices dated March 16, 1942.

DETAILS:

AT BIRMINGHAM, ALABAMA:

The following report was submitted by Confidential Informant whose identity is known to the Bureau:



by the Committee Enclosed you will find a copy of each.

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The leaflets and folders are being transmitted herewith to the Bureau as enclosures.

A clipping from the Birminghom News, Birmingham, Alabama, dated June 25, 1941 contains the following information:

LINDBERGH AND OTHERS MAY BE BROUGHT HERE BY COMMITTEE BRANCH
Headquarters Set Up In City For Compaign To Prevent Entry Into Mar

Col. CHARLES A. LINDBERGH and other America First Committee speakers may be brought to Birmingham in a non-war "blitz" to be launched in Alabama by a branch of the committee just established here under the directorship of C. C. CROWE, attorney, who said he had been designated state chairman for the anti-war group.

CROWE, formerly of Birmingham, who said he had lived recently in Indiana and Maryland, established committee headquarters in offices at 20062 Fourth Avenue, North.

among those associated with CROWE is WILLIAM H. WELLS, said to be a Canadian citizen, chiropractor and soldier of fortune. WELLS was said to have served in the World Way, Spanish-American War, Boar War, and Boxer Rebellion.

CROME, who said he served in the U.S. Army-Tank Corps during the World War, is mapping plans to conduct an Alabama drive against American intervention in the European conflict and said that various speakers would be heard in a series of radio talks aimed at preventing sending U.S. soldiers overseas again.

'There is no excuse for sending our boys to Europe or any foreign country again', said CROME. 'It must not be permitted again.'

He said that the non-war drive, which would be directed at highly pro-British and Pro-Allies Alabama, would make a special appeal to mothers to help keep their sons at home and prevent them from being sent to foreign battlefields.

As for England, CROWE said he and his group favored aiding the British with war materials and supplies -- 'everything but men' and



'giving till it hurts' to help Britain win the war. But, he added, mothers and fathers must be convinced American boys must never again be sent to battle and die on foreign soil.

The committee's anti-war chairman for Alabama said a number of citizens in Birmingham and Alabama had already aligned themselves with the movement and that the non-war 'blitz', to be carried on principally by radio, soon would begin earnest.

CROWE said he and his group planned an early meeting in the new committee headquarters to map plans for the campaign in this state.

The Birmingham Age-Herald, Birmingham, Alabama, for Jun c 26, 1941 contained the following article:

LINDBERGH MAY COME

America First Committee Branch In State Plans Campaign

Plans set in motion by the nowly organized Alabama branch of the America First Committee may bring CHARLES A. LINDBERGH to Birmingham to make a keynote speech in a state campaign backed by the anti-war group, said C. C. CROWE, attorney, state chairman.

CROWE, formerly of Birmingham and more recently of Indiana and Maryland, established committee headquarters at 2006 Fourth Avenue, North.

Again on July 7, 1941 the Birmingham News carried an article regarding subject organization which is being set out as follows:

WELLS NOT INVOLVED IN ANTI-WAR DRIVE

Declaring 'I have no use for anything that CHARLES LINDBERGH is messed up in,' WILLIAM H. WELLS, who gives his address as 405 Exchange Building, emphasized in a letter to The News Monday that he has no connection with the Alabama branch of the America First Committee, recently established here.



When it was reported Col. LINDBERGH and other America First Committee speakers may be brought to Birmingham in a non-war 'blitz' to be launched in this state by the committee branch, WELLS was said to be associated with C. C. CROWE, attorney, who had been designated state chairman of the anti-war group.

'I am anxious to have a correction made in The News at an early date', wrote WELLS. 'I am not in any way connected with this America First Committee'. Wells went on to explain CROWE had sought to associate him in the movement as manager of an office, which had been opened at 2006 Fourth Avenue, North, but that he refused 'to have anything to do with it.'

Although born in Canada, WELLS said he had been an American citizen 30 years and declared 'I am 100 per cent for our president.'

Meantime, CROWE, a heavy set man of middle age, with short-cropped hair, went ahead with setting up the committee organization in Alabama. CROWE, formerly of Birmingham, said he had lived recently in Indiana and Maryland.

It is to be noted that the Birmingham Field Office received a copy of a Bureau letter dated March 7, 1942, the original of which was addressed to

The following investigation was conducted by Special Agent

On May 12, 1942

was requested to search the newspaper mergue for any information pertaining to the formation and activities of the America First Committee.

searched the records of the mergue and the index to the editorial section of the had ever had any publications concerning CHARLES C. CROWE, who opened headquarters for the America First Committee in Birmingham, Alabama. This search was also unproductive.



AUGUSTUS F. LINDBERGH, cousin to CHARLES LINDBERGH, Frank Nelson Building, Birmingham, Alabama, was nominated as State Chairman of the Fight For Freedom Incorporated, which was organized to combat public opinion created by the America First Committee. The principles of this committee were diametrically opposed to those of the America First Committee. The America First Committee was strictly isolationist while the Fight For Freedom Incorporated advocated intervention.

Mr. LINDBERGH stated that the America First Committee was never very active in Birmingham, Alabama, and that he had ne knowledge of an active membership list in the America First Committee. Mr. LINDBERGH said that the Fight For Freedom Incorporated was organized shortly after the America First Committee was formed in Chicago, Illinois. Mr. LINDBERGH said that to his knowledge, the America First Committee was extinct in Birmingham.

records which

reflected that during the month of February and March, 1941,
had paid for four fifteen by
minute transcriptions of speeches by Sonator WHEELER and LINDBERGH and
other prominent Isolationists.

stated that he had been active in the Fight For Freedom Incorporated, and believed that the influence of this organization had permanently squelched any growth of the America First Committee in Birmingham, Alabama. Said that to his knowledge a CH RLES C. CROME, Attorney, had opened offices for the America First Committee in Birmingham, said that this organization had never grown to a large extent. He believed that efforts had been made to build up a substantial membership list but had been unsuccessful. Said that the America First Committee had been short-lived and to his knowledge was not now in existence.

he had many contacts and believed that any activity or new growth on the part of the America First Committee would be immediately brought to his attention.



interviewed on May 15, 1942.

said that she was interested in the principles of the America First Committee and upon its conception in Chicago, Illineis, she was desirous of becoming a member. She said that she wrote to headquarters in Chicago and became a member of that organization. A short time later, she said that she was surprised to learn that a local attorney, CHARLES C. CROWE, had opened headquarters for the America First Committee in Birmingham.

Said that She was interested in Chicago and became a member. She said that organization that organization that a local attorney, CHARLES C. CROWE, had opened headquarters for the America First Committee in Birmingham.

Said that she was interested in Chicago and became a member. She said that organization that organization the called her and requested that she take an active part in organizing this committee in Birmingham.

Visited Mr. CROW and was displeased with the conditions prevailing in his office.

said that after this experience, she refused to join Attorney CROWE in his efforts to promote the America First Committee stated that upon her own initiative she spent in Birmingham. considerable time and money attempting to promote the principles of isolationism. She said that she had paid \$100 to station WBRC for radio time for transcriptions of speeches by various Isolationists. said that much to her amazement, this money was returned to her by station WBRC. She believed that this mency was returned because the Fight For Freedom Incorporated had received radic time free of charge. was interregated as to any knowledge on her part concorning a membership list of the America First Committee in Birmingham. She stated that period in which the America First Committee functioned as a going organization in Birmingham was quite short and it was her belief that Attorney CROWE had never been successful in organizing an active membership.

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It will be noted that instant file reflects that Dr. WELLS was offered a co-leadership with CHARLES C. CROWE in the America First movement in Birmingham. Dr. WELLS refused this offer and publicly announced that he would have no connection whatsoever with Attorney CROWE.

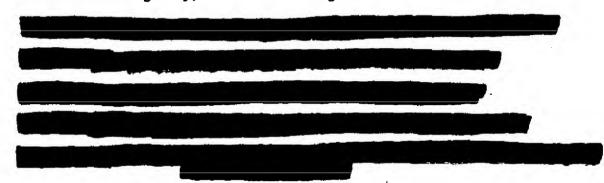
United States Commissioner LOUISE O. CHARLTON advised that she was well informed concerning the Fight For Freedom Incorporated but as far as she knew the America First Committee had never taken held in

When Kennight

Birmingham. Hrs. CHARLTON said that the only recollection that she had of the America First Committee was that it was headed by a local attorney named CROWE and that he had opened an office on Fourth Avenue.

The following investigation was conducted by Special Agent at Montgomery, Alabama.

The following persons were contacted with respect to securing information concerning any activity of subject organization in and around Montgomery, Alabama with negative results:



WALTER BRAGG SHITH, U. S. Marshal, Montgomery, Alabama.

T. M. STOWERS, Assistant U. S. Attorney, Montgomery, "labama.

On May 26, 1942, Montgomery, Alabama, advised that a recent survey conducted by his erganization at the Southeastern Air Corps Training Conter, reflected that the nearest activity to Montgomery, Alabama, on the part of the America First Committee was reported from Albamy, Georgia.

The following investigation was conducted by Special Agent at Mobile, Alabama:

The following persons were contacted with respect to any activity on the part of the America First Committee in the vicinity of Mobile, Alabama, with negative results:





101C

PERCY C. FOUNTAIN, Assistant U. S. Attorney, Mcbile, Alabama.

ENCLOSURES:

TO THE BUREAU:

One booklet entitled "OUR FOREIGN POLICY" by General ROBERT E. WOOD, published by the America First Committee.

One bocklett entitled "ADDRESS" by HERBERT HOOVER.

One subscription blank for the A.F.C. Bulletin.

One pamphlot entitled "I HATE WAR", published by the America First Committee.

One lonflet entitled "WHY AMERICA CANNOT BE INVADED" by Col. ROBERT R. McCORMICK.



According to 1.61

UNDEVELOPED LEADS

THE DIRMINGHAM FIELD DIVISION

AT BIRMINGHAM, ALABAMA,

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and interview

THE INDIANAPOLIS FIELD DIVISION

AT INDIANAPOLIS, IND.,

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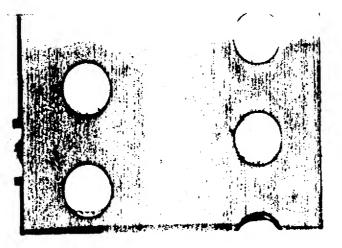
THE DALTIMORE FIELD DIVISION,

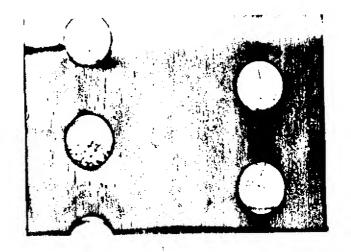
AT BALTIMORE, MD.

will search the field division indices for any informa-

tion concerning

PENDING





Principles

The America First Committee

- 1. Our first duty is to keep America out of foreign wars. Our entry would only destroy democracy, not save it. "The path to war is a false path to freedom."
- Not by acts of war abroad but by preserving and extending democracy at home can we aid democracy and freedom in other lands.
- In 1917 we sent our American ships into the war zone and this led us to war. In 1941 we must keep our naval convoys and merchant vessels on this side of the Atlantic.
- 4. We must build a defense, for our own shores, so strong that no foreign power or combination of powers can invade your country, by sea, air or land.
- 5. Humanitarian aid is the duty of a strong, free country at peace. With proper safeguard for the distribution of supplies, we should feed and clothe the suffering and needy people of the democracies of Europe.

AMERICA FIRST COMMITTEE
141 WEST JACKSON BOULEVARD
CHICAGO, ILLINOIS

AMERICA FIRST COMMITTEE 2005% No. 4th Ave. Phone 4-4804 BERMINGHAM, ALABAMA

"I HATE WAR"

Franklin Delano Roosevelt said at Chautauqua, N. Y., August 14, 1936

of the American People

HATE WAR

AMERICA SEST COMMITTEE
*20061/2 No. 4th Ave. Phone 44804
BURMINGHAM, ALABAMA

Please enroll me as a member of THE AMERICA FIRST COMMITTEE

not affiliated

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ntributions of time

AMERICA FIRST COMMITTEE,

Boulevard, Chicago, Illinois

THESE ARE THE SOLEMN AND SACRED PLEDGES

THE PRESIDENT DURING THE 1940 ELECTION CAMPAIGN

We Will Participate Nor Intervene In Foreign Wars.

"We are arming curselves not for any purpose of conflict or intervention in foreign disputes. I repeat again that I stand on the platform of our party; we will not participate in foreign wars and will not send our Army, Naval or Air Forces to fight in foreign lands outside of the Americas except in case of attack."

"It is for peace that I have labored; and it is for peace that I shall labor all the days of my life."

Philadelphia, Oct. 23, 1940.

The First Purpose of Our Foreign Policy Is to Keep Out of War.

"We look at the old world of Europe today. It is an ugly world, poisoned by hatred, and greed and fear. We can see what has been the inevitable consequence of that poison—it has been war.

"And we look at this country, built by generations of peaceable, friendly men and women who had in their hearts faith—faith that the good life can be obtained by those who work for it.

"We know that we are determined to defend our country and with our neighbors to defend this hemisphere. We are strong in our defense.

"The first purpose of our foreign policy is to keep our country out of war."

Your Boys Are Not Going to Be Sent Into Any Foreign Wars.

"And while I am talking to you, fathers and mothers, I give you one more assurance. I have said this before, but I shall say it again, and again, and again, your boys are not going to be sent into any foreign wars.

"They are going into training to form a force so strong that, by its very existence, it will keep the threat of war far away from our shores. Yes, the purpose of our defense is defense."

Boston, Oct. 30, 1940.

Ships Flying the American Flag Must Stay Out of the War Zones.

"In 1935 in the face of growing dangers throughout the world, your government undertook to eliminate the hazards which in the past had led to war. We made it clear that ships flying the American flag could not carry munitions to a belligerent; and that they must stay out of war zones."

New York City, Oct. 28, 1940.

I Am Fighting to Keep Out of Foreign Wars.

"I am fighting to keep this nation prosperous and at peace. I am fighting to keep our people out of foreign wars and to keep foreign conceptions of government out of our own United States."

Brooklyn, Nov. 1, 1940.

The AMERICA FIRST COMMITTEE Leads the Fight to Keep the United States Out of War

HELP US SAVE THE NATION from
THE HORRORS OF WAR

DEMAND FAITHFUL FULFILLMENT
of the President's
SOLEMN and SACRED PROMISES

Write — Wire — Telephone President Roosevelt Your Senators Your Congressmen

JOIN WITH US NOW

and

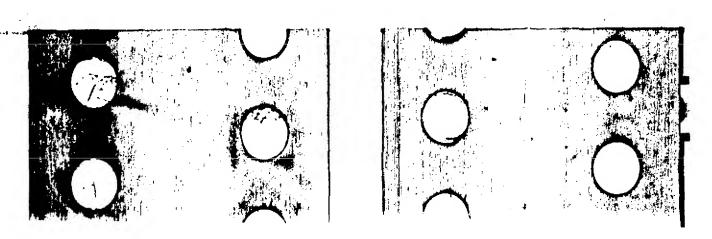
ENROLL YOUR NEIGHBORS

in the

AMERICA FIRST COMMITTEE

141 West Jackson Boulevard

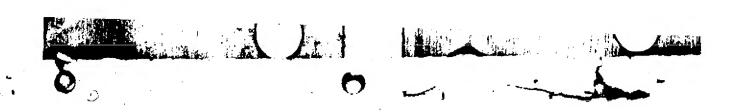
Chicago, Illinois



FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE UNITED STATES OFFICIAL BUSINESS MCHAM, ALABAMA OFFICE BOX 314 PENALTY FOR PRIVATE USE TO A PAYMENT OF POSTAGE, S

Why America Cannot Be Invaded

Statement of Col. Robert R. McGormick, editor and publisher of the Chicago Tribune, before the Committee on Foreign Relations of the United States Senate, February 5, 1941



NOT BE INVADED

re the Committee on Foreign Relations of the United States Senate, February 5, 1941

the Gulf of Mexico and the Caribbean Sea, protected by our West Indies possessions. Our pilots would be rested and our engines unworn.

I cannot conceive of anyone having the slightest fear of an attack along this line, if he has any respect at all for our own air force.

If it is imagined that this continent is to be invaded by water or by air, we must conclude the attack will come across the northern Atlantic. The route would be Iceland, eight hundred and fifty miles; Newfoundland, sixteen hundred and fifty miles more; and Canada, another eight hundred miles; total distance thirty-three hundred miles. Iceland is now held by Canadian troops, so the route is blocked at first base. If Iceland were lost, south Greenland and Labrador would be of no use to an invader, because of their rough character. On Newfoundland is a great Canadian-British air base, and our own soldiers have already landed on the island where Lord Baltimore settled before he went to Maryland.

opplies would easily reach Newfoundland by the St. Lay, nce, immune from interruption, while any assailant crossing the ocean would be subject to attack from the air, on the water, and from submarines.

It is an hysterical imagination which can conceive of our being driven from Newfoundland. Even if we were, the enemy would find no supplies in that barren land. There would be Cabot Strait to cross, and the Gut of Camso. Nova Scotia is a peninsula with a narrow neck, and New Brunswick largely forest and mushkeag.

Can anyone dream of an enemy forcing his way through this country in face of one or two million trained American and Canadian troops?

In the Pacific we have our bases in the Aleutian Islands,

twenty-two hundred miles from Tokio; at Pearl Harbor, thirty-eight hundred miles from Tokio; and Samoa, four thousand miles from Tokio. If we need any other island bases, to protect our coast, we have the means of taking them and the knowledge that we will be welcomed by their inhabitants. Behind these outposts we have the Panama Canal, so that we can move our own fleet from ocean to ocean, which makes a one-ocean navy strategically equal to two navies denied the Panama Canal. It is fantastic to suggest that we are in any danger of attack.

Even if we did not have these overwhelming strategical advantages, this panic over possible German attack would not be justified.

We went overseas twenty-three years ago to attack the German army and were not overwhelmed,

Our victory, however, was won at bitter cost. The two divisions which were the most heavily engaged lost three men in killed, wounded, and broken by hardships for every man they contained on their mustering days. Many of these ruined men are still in the hospitals, or are suffering on their modest government compensation. Nobody ever gives a ball or a cocktail party for them.

There are young men of the same stripe today who, if forced to war abroad, will fight as the old army fought, and suffer as the old army is suffering. The experience of the Athenians at Syracuse, the Romans in Germany, Napoleon in Egypt, and the Russians in Manchuria, shows that the greatest catastrophes come to navies, armies and nations that embark on distant military adventures.

I pray to God that hysteria, propaganda and ambition will not become strong enough to immolate our present gen-

eration of young men.



WHY AMERICA CAN

Statement of Col. Robert R. McCormick, editor and publisher of the Chicago Tribune,

At the time I received Senator Johnson's invitation to appear before your honorable body, there had been some mention of the danger of attack on us through South America. I decided to accept the invitation because I happen to have personal knowledge of a considerable part of the ground over which such attack would come, and second-hand information of the most reliable kind about the rest of it. I have also traveled extensively in Eastern Canada, in Newfoundland, and Lahrador.

It is five hundred miles by map from the German frontier to the boundary between France and Spain. This country is well served with railroads and highroads, but, as we know.

is pretty well exhausted of foodstuffs.

From the French-Spanish boundary to Cadiz is five hundred miles on the map, but because of the mountainous region, much farther by road. The roads and railroads were of poor quality when I was there, and are much worse since the Civil War. They would need much work to make them capable of carrying large numbers of troops, their equipment, and their supplies. Spain is now on the verge of starvation. Whatever the disposition of the government might be towards a German expedition across Spain, we know that the Spanish people is antagonistic towards foreign armies, and is stubborn and remorseless in guerrilla warfare. Spain broke Napoleon. Hitler might not wish to add her to his problems.

Northern Morocco and Algiers are very mountainous. During the Moroccan War, there were some primitive railroads, and the French were building macadamized highways for the use of the small armies employed against the Moors. There is a road twenty-five hundred miles across the desert as far as Bamako; and a jungle railroad eight hundred miles long to Dakar. No supplies of any kind can be found in the

disert, of course.

To reach Dakar, therefore, an army would have to pass five hundred miles through France, five hundred miles through Spain. cross the Straits, and then travel three thousand three hundred miles through the mountains, desert, and jungle of equatorial Africa.

It is plain, therefore, that it will be utterly impracticable for Germany to concentrate a force of any size at Dakar. If we proceed on the assumption that only an air base is to be maintained at Dakar, still we have the great problem of

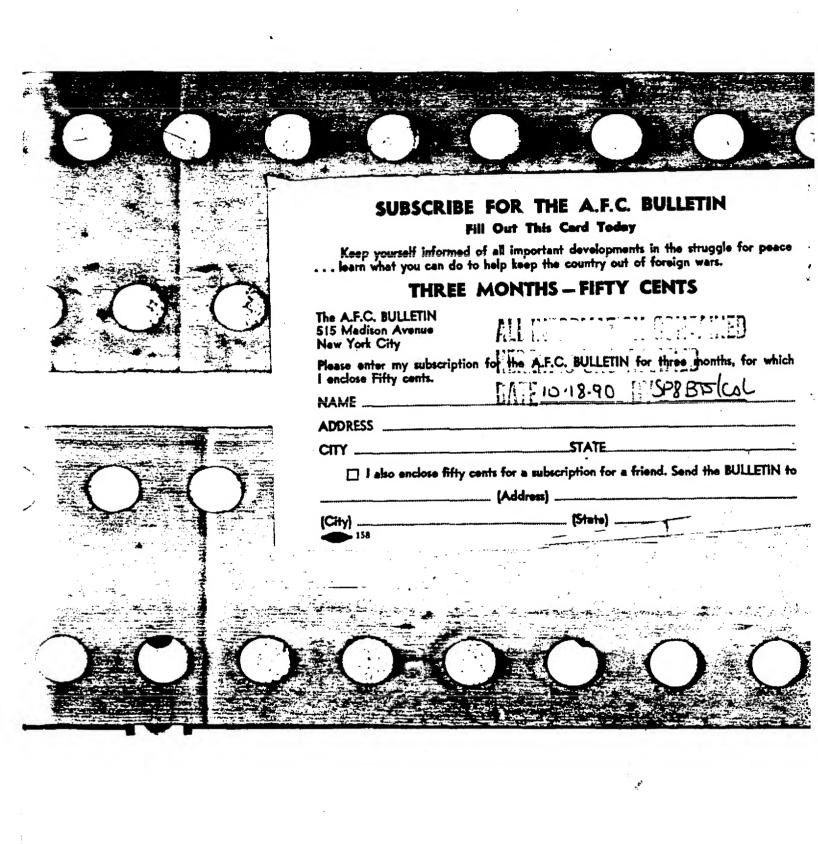
supplying it either overland or by air transport.

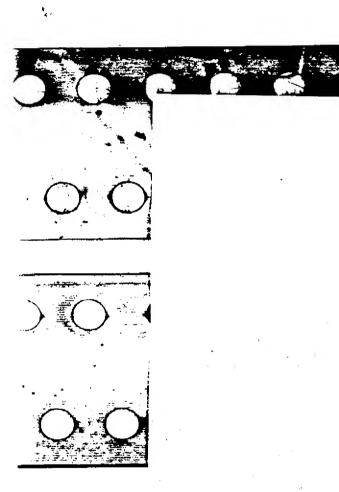
If we pretend that this has been done, the Cape Verde Islands are only a few miles away. They belong to Portugal, and Great Britain has the right, by treaty, to use all Portuguese territory. It will be much easier to supply an air fleet at the Cape Verde Islands by sea than to supply one at Dakar by air or overland transportation from Germany. An air fleet based on Cape Verde Island should easily destroy one at Dakar.

If this form of defense should be neglected, it is still sixteen hundred and twenty miles from Dakar to Natal in South America. If an air force had advanced that far, it twould now have a line of supplies five hundred miles through hostile France, on good roads, and five hundred miles through dangerous Spain, on poor roads; three thousand three hundred miles across the mountain desert and jungle of Africa; and then sixteen hundred and twenty miles by air across the "Atlantic Ocean."

From Natal to Georgetown, our farthest southern flying base, is two thousand miles over the Brazilian equatorial jungle. To reach Georgetown, the German air force would have traveled over seventy-nine hundred miles to meet our, own air force, amply supplied with its line of communication







ADDRESS

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THE HONORABLE HERBERT HOOVER

Now York
May 11, 1941

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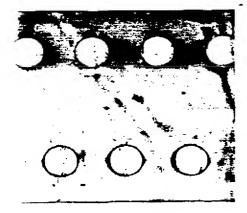
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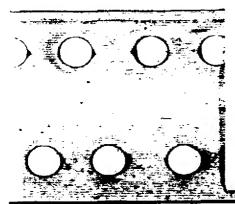
UNITED STATES TO THIS WAR

POR the last six months I have remained aside from the controversy on whether we should join in this war. I have been waiting to see the progress of our preparedness. I have wanted to see the situation abroad develop more fully. I had believed that the President was sarnestly endeavoring to keep his promise to the American people of October 28rd:

. . . "We will not participate in foreign wars and will not send our Army, Naval or air forces to fight in foreign lands outside of the American, except in sees of attack."

IN THE past ten days we have had many speeches and much propagands, the meaning of which is to drive the American people into this war. One who has been





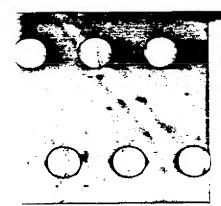
honored by his country as a member of America's War Council in the last world war and as its Commander-in-Chief in subsequent troubled years must learn something of the principles of national defense and our setting in the world.

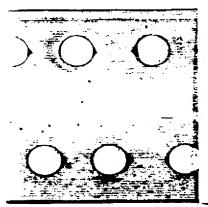
IT IS therefore my duty to speak out of my experience. I hope that by soher discussion of the facts, I may contribute comething of thought in this most fateful decision. I am not speaking as the representative of any party, of any group and committee, or any association. And despite the depth of smotion that I feel, I hope I may speak without pession and with respect for the views of my many troubled fellow citisens.

I DO not need to express again my abhorrence of the whole totalitarian movement or its dangers to the world. That there be no misunderstanding, let me state at the outset that I support provision of the maximum tools of war to Britain; that I am convinced we can give this maximum during her next critical months only if we keep out of this war; that putting our navy into action is joining this war; that the whole European war attuation is in transformation; that America is as yet unprepared even for adequate defense; that our people are not united. To go in now is neither wise nor for the interest of either Britain or ourselves. AS I have listened to these recent speeches it has constantly recurred to my mind that the problem before Mr. Roosevelt is far more difficult and complex than many of these speakers imagined. In the anxiety and emotion of the moment many do not recognise the stern facts.

IT IS now proposed that we should put the American Navy into action. That is a straightforward, understandable proposal which boldly makes clear the meaning of words like convoys or patrols. That is joining in this war, once and for all. From here the steps would be automatic. Our Navy soust attack German submarines, ships and planes, if it is to be of any use. To make it effective them we must expand naval and air bases abroad. We must equip these bases with expeditionary forces. And that is war for long years to come.

TYPERE are those who say we are already in this war. That is not true. We are in a position of risk. But war has not been declared between surselves and the Aria. Diplomatic representatives are still maintained on both sides. Our treaties are still in force. There is no killing of men between us. If this war were ended tomorrow, it would not be necessary for us to make a new pages with Germany.





AM not arguing the spirit of our relations with Germany. I am only discussing the situation which exists. But it is a certainty that we shall be at war the moment our Navy is put into action. We are in the war when we send our boys either by air or by sen or on expeditionary forces with an intent to shoot at the Germans. Let us not soddle ourselves by thinking otherwise.

TWOULD be more consistent with American honesty and American courage for us to face the straight issue of a declaration of war by the Congress as the Constitution provides than to creep into an undeclared war. It is due our people that the Congress should vote on the real question which underlies all this: "Shall we declare war on Germany or Italy or Japan?" In a national debate on that issue the whole of the facts could be placed before the American people and the people could reflect their views to the Congress. That question once openly determined by the only open process democracy knows, then our people would accept that decision—whatever it might be. The full facts and the truth is the way to achieve national unity.

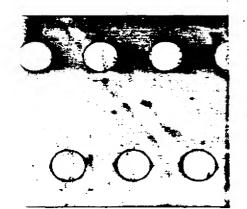
B MUST face some hard facts. And there is smong them, the transformation of the military and political situation abroad. There is our own unpreparedness. There is the practical aid that Britain now requires and requires at once. There is the lack of unity of our people.

THIS is no time for wishful thinking.
Upon our decision depends the fate of our nation. It is the time, of all times, for a sober and frank appraisal of new facts and new situations.

THE first hard fact is the transformation of the character of this war. No one can deay the grim possibility that Hitler may take Suez, Iraq, North Africa and the Mediterranean. This would not, however, cut the vital lifeline of Britain. It might even release that British fleet to protect their Atlantic lanes. In any event, Hitler can occupy all of Continental Europe.

AND from all this area he will get ample food supplies and vital raw materials for the German people. True, he is blockaded by the British fact, but the blockade cannot starve the German people or out off their vital raw material supplies. It is only the people in the occupied democracies who will starve. Having been disarmed to their very carving knives, they cannot revolt.

A SECOND phase of this transformation is that substantial array fighting seems likely to go into the background for many years. The British armies cannot invade





Hitler's Europe. Nor do I believe with all the 6,000,000 men that Hitler commands and his superior air force that he can now cross the Channel to England. To invade Hitler's Europe would require us to prepare 5,000,000 men in addition to the British army. This time to invade Germany we would need to land them quickly and that might take 40,000,000 tons of ships to earry our army over the Atlantic. And they might not be able to land even them. It would take ten years to build those ships. And Hitler could not start toward the United States without equal preparation.

THEREFORE, with this transformation it does not appear that this war can be brought to a conclusion by armies or navies for years and years to come.

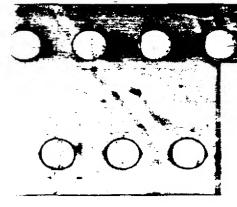
THE undstermined weapon against Hitler is air power. And the character of air war is also being transformed. It is rapidly smarging to be long-range bombing with fighter planes to defend against the bombers. Accurate action in destruction of industrial and military objectives by daylight is no longer possible because of the efficiency of fighter planes on both sides. Manufacture of more and more planes will thus continue on both sides. But so far there is no effective answer to night bombing. It serves mostly to destroy large objectives, the cities and har-

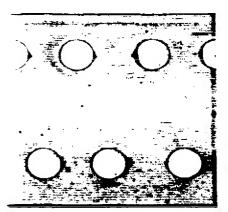
bors, reducing them to rubble and killing eivilians. And in this destruction Hitler has to fly only one-third the distance that the British have to fly, to reach his point of attack.

AND there is a transformation in the German blockade of England. The long-range bomber is developing as a primary weapon in the attack upon harbors and upon ships. Submarines are today partly scouts, sending word to the air forces. Naval protection of Britain's see lanes is now subsidiary to air protection.

THIS moving transformation of the relation of army power, sea power and air power presents new situations which are not yet clear. They involve many new considerations. They plainly indicate that America would be joined in a long, long war without a clear method of conclusion. And they emphasize England's immediate need which I will discuss later on.

THE second hard fact we must frankly face is that in the last war Japan was our ally and we had no need to defend the Pacific. But Japan is now openly allied to the Axis. She only awaits a favorable moment to realize her ambitions in Axis. That opportunity comes to her if we go to war in the Atlantic. Even if she does not open war





upon us, her action and attitudes will be so potentially dangerous to us that we must instantly divert our energies to strengthen our defenses in the Pacific.

THE third of these hard facts that we have to face is our unpreparedness. We have been slow to organize for defense, as is always the case in democracies.

E ARE not prepared to go to war. Our industry will not be tuned up for another eight or ten months to produce enough of the tools of war to equip our own defense and at the same time supply the needs of Britain. We do not have 200,000 men who are sufficiently equipped with planes, tanks and guns to meet 300,000 Germans, to say nothing of victory over 5,000,000 of them. We will not even have 1,500,000 men so equipped for probably another 12 months. We have no substantial air force of the type now being used in this war. It is true we have a magnificent navy, but even that is not yet big enough for the job which it may have to undertake if we join in this war.

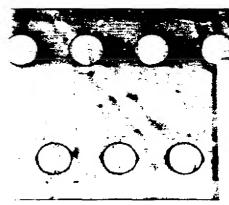
AND preparedness for war consists not alone of men and tools and munitions. It also embraces the spirit of a people. This war is a total war. That means every energy of a people must be mobilised. We must have a united people to make success-

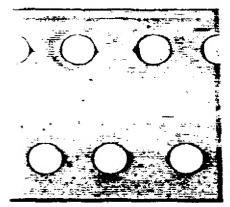
ful total war. We are united in resolution to defend the Western Hemisphere from military aggression. We are united in building whatever of a war machine is necessary for this purpose. We are united in our condemnation of aggressor nations. We are united in wanting to help England defend her independence.

BUT beyond this we are a divided people. Do I need to prove this dismrity? There is an obvious large majority of people who oppose the sending to foreign wars of our boys either on our Navy or on convoys or simplanes or expeditionary forces where they may have to shoot or be shot at. These oppositions are strongest in our youth and it is youth who must die. There is no unwillingness in them to die to defend our Hemister.

AND to have a united people the Government must be united with the will of the people. A divided people cannot act the people in the supreme issue of total war. That failure in unity was part of the disaster of France. The first necessity is to follow an objective upon which our people will agree.

HISTORY will meets the condemnation or the praise for the policies and the methods which have brought us to these





dangers. That is not the question now. The question is what to do from here on.

OUR every sympathy, our interest is to assist the heroic defense of England. We have pledged ourselves to give Britain the aid of our factories and our farms.

HER most critical period is right now. It is during the next months. What is the urgent need of England as expressed by her leaders time and again! Plainly she needs bomber planes to gnard her sea lanes. She needs bomber planes and fighter planes to offset the attacks upon her cities and her harbors. She needs tanks, sumitions and food. She needs merchant ships to replace her losses. She needs minor naval warships to guard her sea lanes.

WE ARE today giving her only a part of the scant production of our industries and retaining the other part for our ewn preparedness.

F WE join this war we must join in garnest. We shall lose it any other way. If we join we must at once increase our army to 3,000,000 or 5,000,000 men. We would have to use a larger part of our immediate manufactures to supply our own army. We would have to use a larger part of our air production to defend our own seest eities. We

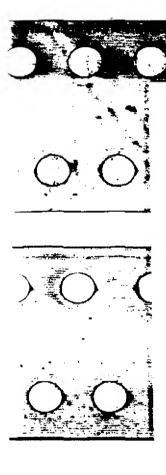
would have to at once increase our protections for the Pacific Coast and our island possessions. We would have to use a larger part of our production of fighter and bomber planes for them. We would have to hold merchant ships in reserve to earry troops to protect them. We are not building enough merchant ships now to meet British needs. We would have to use our light naval craft to convoy and protect our own see lanes, especially in the Pacific.

IN NET, if we join this war we must use a larger portion of our present scant production for our own equipment and defause. We would have to do this at once. And that means if we join in this war we must give Britain less tools of war during her most critical period.

IF we stay out of this war we can take more risks in parting with our tools of war.

THE British have said time and time again that if we give them the tools they have the man-power to repel invasion, they have the man to man the warships, the merchant ships, and the airplanes.

TODAY we are confronted with not one problem but many. What is the constructive American course smid these problems? Is it not clear that we will give believe to Britain if we join in the war? The



solution is not for us to go to war but to give her every tool that will really aid her regardless of our own preparedness. There are risks in this course but it is the least perilous road we can now take. This solution will not please extremists on either side. Common sense and stark truth rarely do. But I am convinced that here lies the road to national unity that is so essential to America at this time.

WE MUST also think other things through. And there are some other very disagreeable questions that must be answered before we take the plunge to war. We cannot refuse to face the facts of the situation when the fatte of the nation is at stake.

W/E WISH to aid Britain, but we must W face the fact that if she cannot maintain the independence of the British Isles with the tools and policies I have mentioned, it cannot be maintained by our joining in the war. If we are in the war and should Britain fall, we would be left to carry the war alone. And that war against Nexi-controlled Europe will have to be fought at a distance of \$,000 miles and for years and years.

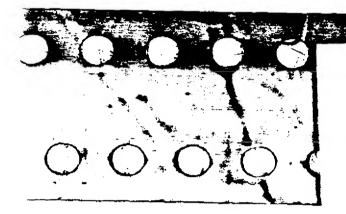
IN THAT event, are we going to blockade Europe? If so, are we going to starve the 40 million people in Great Britain? And how will we bring such a war to a conclusion? WHAT the course of the American people may be in this configuration of the world cannot rightly be determined now. We cannot appraise all of the factors. At the present we cannot judge the effect of the transformation going on in this war. But there are some things we can state with assur-

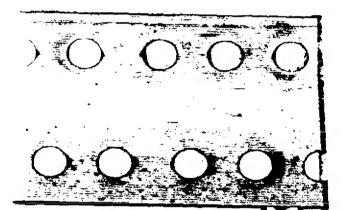
RIGHT now we need calm thinking. We need reason. We need tolerance. We need to approach these problems with deliberation. Until this picture is more clear it is folly to gamble with the fate of a nation. Strong men do not need to rush. We must not be swept off our feet by the profound depth of our enotions. By no heaty or smotional set must we jeopardize the aid to Britain and the future of America.

FINALLY we must not farget the price we shall have to pay if we join in this war.

IT MEANS the merifice of our most precious lives and the hopes of millions of mothers and wives. It means the merifice also of our own liberty to a dictatorahip of our own, inevitable in total war.

TP WE go into war, we must pass through post-war bankruptcy. The savings of the people will be lost. The endowments of our universities, solleges, hospitals will be de-

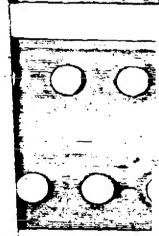


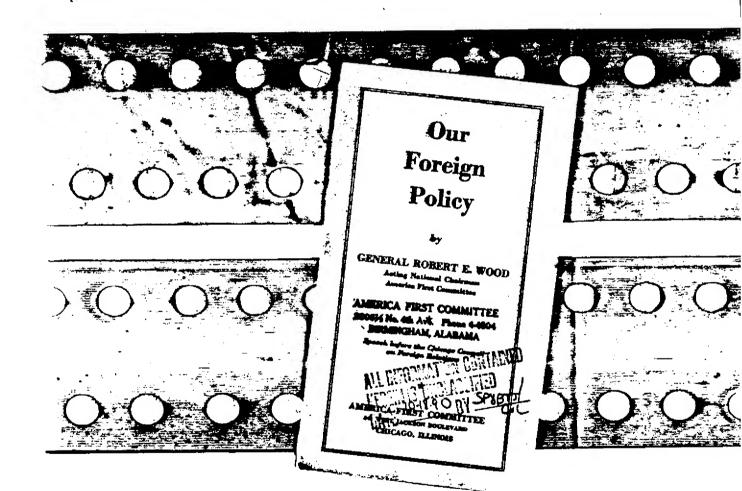


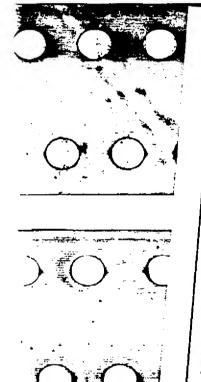
stroyed. And when the day of transformation of war into peace comes the Government will not be able to support the unemployed and the farmers. In this gulf all major industry must be operated by the Government. When we go to the peace table, hate will again as before sit at that table endeavoring to destroy the hope of any real peace among men. Interty will not recover on this Continent for a generation.

BUT if despite all this price we are compelled to act with our military power, let us be thoroughly prepared. Let us make our determination within the frame of our Constitution by the decision of Congress. And when that decision is made, there will be no disunity in America.

THE Germans know all about our slow preparedness. They need have no momentary satisfaction in our unpreparedness. That will be forthcoming. The potential might of this nation is the strongest thing in this whole world. If necessary, we can raise and we can eventually equip an army of as many millions of men as we head. We can make more insemious tools of war and we can opcrate them better than any nation in the world. That strength is always here in America. The defense of the United States is not dependent upon any other nation. America cannot be defeated.







America First Committee **Principles**

- I. The United States must build an impregnable defense for America. With such a defense so foreign power, or group of powers, can successfully attack us.
- 2. Americans should and do cherish the 2. Americans should and do cherish the ideals of democracy and abhor dictatorably, but the weifare of one hundred thirty million Americans and the preservation of democracy on this continent demand that the United States keep out of foreign wars.
- 3. The cash and carry provisions of the existing Neutrality Act are consential to American peace and accurity. Within the limits of that Act, Americans may properly aid Great Britain. Aid to her beyond the limitations of the present Neutrality Act would weaken our defense at home and would weaken our defense at home, and might well involve us in conflict. We oppose any change in the law which would permit American vessels to enter the combat zone American venture to make the American Navy to convoy merchant ships through that some, at any such course would inevitably plunge this country into Europe's war.
- 4. With preper safeguards for the distri-A. With proper careguards for the chemi-nation of supplies and the maintenance of our neutrality. Americans should, to the lim-it of their ability, five humanitarian aid to the suffering and needy people of England and the occupied countries.

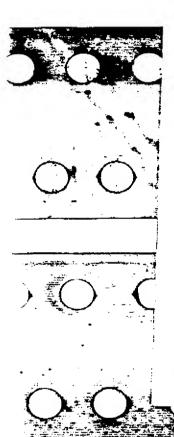
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Introducing General Wood

By Casy Judiese

By are at a crisis in the Catago Council on Fernica Return We are at a crisis in our international relations. On the decisions now in our international relations. On the decisions now in our international relations we have made by the people of this country for generations to come.

At sariier meetings you have had presented to you dramatically meetings you have had presented to you dramatically meeting the field of the war between the risks of war which that introduce to take all Now there is another view, equally particle, equally particle, equally provided the subject of the state of the state of the subject of the state of the subject of the state of the subject of the s



General Robert E. Wood's Speech

"Our Foreign Policy"

I hasitated to accept the invination of my friends, Dr. Lichtsnetsim and Mr. Utley, to address this gethering for two reasons—first, because I do not feel on a part as a speaker with the very seminent persons who have addressed these gatherings; second, because my views are opposed to those of a probable majority of my listeners—and I may add—opposed to those of some of my dearent friends and relatives. I have a brother-in-law on the William Allen White Committee.

But it is one of the beauties of a democracy that in time of peace, at least, men are free to express their opinions and houses men respect opposing opinions in the opinions are sincere and free of ulterior motive, and how is a time for all honest men to express their convictions.

The Hour of Decision

The Hour of Decision

This country is on the eve of momentons decisions. The results of these decisions may be so far reaching that they may have an effect for good or had on the life of this country for at least a generation. I am at the stage of life when I do not care as to the effect on myself or my own generation. I do greatly care what the effect will be on my children and grand-children and their generation.

There are two schools of thought in this country on the subject of our foreign policy. They may be termed "interventionists" and "Isolationists." These terms are not exertly descriptive, because all interventionists are not excity descriptive, because and more ventionists are not excity descriptive, because and more ventionists are not excity descriptive, because of North America and Sewith America.

I except from my discussion those who have ultarize motives—anything surept the welfare of our country. That would include the Communists who really desire to destroy our Government; the Naxis and members of the Bund who put the interests of Germany above those of this country; some ultrapoetificia who forget the interests of their country in their desire for peace at any price; a limited number of centrese Anglophiles whe put the firsterware of Great Britain above those of their own country.

Our Common Ground

Our Common Ground
These achools of thought are in violent opposition, but there are certain points of agreement among all classes except perhaps what may be called the lunatic frings of our population.
These points of agreement are:

First—The measurity for a strong defense—a strengthening of our army and navy and air force. Our people are practically maninous on this subject—the only diverses are on difference of detail, it is obvious that the releast nation of the world, in a world of force, must make itself impregnable.

Second—The belief that no foreign nation must exist possession of any part of the two American distant possession of any part of the two American and that the United States must be prepared to defend the North are from continent, and at least that portion of the American continent, and at least that protein of the American continent, and at least that protein of the American continent, and at least that protein of the American continent, and at least that protein of the American continent, and at least that protein of the American continent, and at least that protein of the American continent, and the Equator. There is some difference of opinion as to whether military and naval protection should go as a far as Cape Horn.

Taked—Access to our great industrial plant by Great Britain of planes, tanks, munitions of war, raw materials from private manufacturers, provided she can pay for them and provide her own transportation. And this I may add is a very great aid.

Without them and provide her own transportation. And this I may add is a very great aid.

Without them and provide her own transportation. And this I may add is a very great aid.

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Without them and provide her own transportation. And this I may add is a very great aid.

in accord with these three principles. I know I am Harre Differences Regin
But it is when we get beyond the third point that spinion diverges sharply. The present administration in power, probably the majority of our editors and solumnists, a very influential body of public spinion as represented by the Committee to Defend Assertes by Alding Britain is in favor of our government turning over some of our flying fortresses, more destroyers, more planes, and surchant ships. Others, even more extreme, favor an outright alliance with Great Britain and a declaration of war on Germany.



Now what are the fundamental arguments for this point of view? They may be reduced to three principal reasons:

First—The totalitarian state with its ideology, with its record of persecution, is repurpant to our ideals and should be destroyed, even if we have to canter a war to accomplish this result.

Second—Our own protection depends on Britain as our first lime of defense, and if she falls, we are exposed to the consample of a totalitarian combination. Fer se, it follows that we must give England all the aid we can, even at the risk of entering the war.

an ten and we can, even at the risk of entering the writer of the state of the state of the state of the for a free competitive, unorganised and summanaged industrial system to compets with a totalitarian sys-tem.

War Does Not Destroy Ideologies
As to the first reason, you cannot destroy an ideology
by waging war on it. The conditions created in
Europe by the Versailles Treaty were largely responsible for the rise of Hitler and the Nazi philosophy.
The history of Europe for the last 100 years is a
story of creatities, persecutions, injustices. No government was more repagnant to our ideals and ideas
than the of Carristic regime of Russis—it had over
many years a series of pogroma, but we remained
on friendly terms with Russis. Up to 1917 we had
always remained true to the principles of foreign
policy laid down by the founders of our country:
the policy of keeping aloof from the quarrels of
Europe and Asis.

The Communistic regime of Russis under Lenin
and Stalin was equally opposed to our principles
and was detested by the majority of our people.
Nevertheless, we have maintained our relations with
Russis, and we have cartainly had no idea of making
war on that country.

Sentimentalists or Realists?

Sentimentalists or Realists?

A nation annot be a knighterrant. It must be realistic. Great Britain, during her entire history, has been coldly realistic, and her success in building up her Empire has been due to her realism. As individuals we can give vent to our generous implies or even to our shates, but our statement, our actions, our moulders of public opinion must consider that it is not their individual fortunes and lives that are to be comifered, but those of 180,000, 600 of their fellow eithers.

Now at to the second reason—our military defense in the event of a German victory. Our country has gone through a curious transformation of thought since May 10th. From an underestimate of the military and economic strength of Germany, it has gone to the opposite extreme of overestimating that strength. From some of the remarks heard on the Enstern seahourd in June, we would have thought that New York and Boston were in imminent danger of being hombed.

Bombings Alone Cannot Win

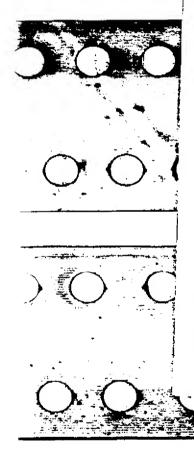
Bombings Alone Camnot Win

New the events in Spain, Poland, Belgium and
France showed the major impertance of the air
arm when supported by tanks, infantry and a modstranger of the stranger of the strange

Can England Be Invaded?

Cam England Be Invaded? As for an invasion, at the great risk of being called a false prophet, I dends whether any invasion will save be made, and if it is attempted, it will be desirately repulsed. To land 250,000 Germans in England, with mechanised equipment, assumption and secondary supplies, would be a gigantic operation. Once landed, that force would have to face 1,500,000 Englishmen under arms, fighting on their own island being strong defenses. And to land these 250,000 Germans means practically excepted measury of the air, blocking of the English flort, complete control of the Channel—none of which adjectives have yet been attained after more than a meanth of intensive

jŕ.



effort. To sens up, I doubt whather the island can be conquered, and I am quits sure the British fleet nannot be put out of commission.

Now we come to pur evu danger of inventon and the perfectly fantantic hysteria that pervaded this security after the bettle of France. I think any competent military or nevel caper, derining the year majority, will tell you that there is sheelurlay me danger of an invasion of the United States even if Germany is competally victorious, and I doubt whether she will be. The amount of shipping required for the transportation of even 156,000 men of a modern nechanised army with their ammunition and supplies over 2,000 miles of cosmi te colonial and it is to be presumed that our own navy and if force will not be idle.

No Awaree Care Attack Us

air force will not be idie.

No Arzny Can Attack Us
If it is impracticable or at least exceedingly difficult
for an army to crose E5 miles of Channel, what valid
grounds are there for supposing that a large army
eas crose 3,000 miles of cosen to invade a continent?

Some will inquire—why should it not be pessible
for Germany to seize bases in Mexico or Contral
America and attack from those countries. Again,
that presupposes an overwhelming sea power. But
even if that sea power were present, there would
again be the same difficulties of a 3,000 mile long
line of communication for an invading army. And
ean army core landed must crose an exceedingly difficult between before ever arriving at the Texas border.
I think that hypothesis may be safely dismissed.

Panic First-Then War!

Partic First—Them War!

Now we came to the favorite borey—air attacks. I quote from Major Al Williams' recent speech, reprinted in the Congressional Record—"Cosmis and extended lines of communications are still vital factors in modern warfars. President Reservative penicky flight schedule for the sir invasion of America is ridiculous, worthy of Hollyweed and certainly not of the White House. To support my argument against the President's wild flight schedule for a foreign air invasion of the United States I offer a fingle insentrovertible reason. With all their air power the Germans could not attack and subdue England from air bases 800 to 800 miles distant lessend they seized air bases on the serth seast of Holland, Belgrins and France 20 to 100 miles distant from the ceast of England. Each and every place of

the fantastic itinerary for the air invasion of Amer-ica would have to be conquered for the establishment of major air bases for the enemy attempting the job. The President must know this—but apparently the pattern is panic first, and then war.

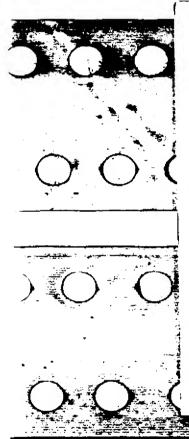
An Exhausted Germany is Harmicas All of this presupposes a completely victorious Germany, ready at the end of a leng and costly struggle, to immediately schark on a new and perileux adventure across 8,000 miles of ocean against a nation of 120,000,000 people. The present war represents even years of preparation on the part of Germany, So-called total war represents a predigal expenditure of labor, money and effort. Steel is rapidly consumed, alternate and effort. Steel is rapidly consumed, alternate and mechanical equipment are rapidly worm out, reserves of all kinds are exhausted, not to mention the wear and fear on human beings. A nation that for seven years has been given guns instead of butter is apt at the end of this war to demand more butter from its leaders. Be on every count it seems inconceivable to me that Germany at the end of the war, even if aided by its ailles, who will be in a worse condition of exhaustion than Germany itself, will attack the United States. And if this country with its 150,000,000 people and its two great natural ocean barriers cannot defend itself unsided by Britain or anybody clae, it does not deserve to survive. The great nation that has to trust to others for its defense is on the downward path to destruction. An Exhausted Germany Is Harmless

Europe Must Have Our Goods

Europe Must Have Our Goods

Now as to our sconomic problems. An sconomic war after the war-the loss of our European, Assistic sad South American trade. I have a high personal regard for Walter Lippmann's brains and ability, but I besieve his picture of an unequal context between a totalitarian economy and a free economy is misseading. After all, when two nations see two centinents such have things the other needs trade eventually results regardless of the feelings each may have far the other. Europe needs us more than we seed Europe—our materials and products are more important to her than hers to m. True, Germany has reduced largely its purchases from as, but more from necessity than choice. As far as Bouth America, is concerned, we can always obtain the Hon's share of the trade of Mexico, Central America, Colombia and Venezuela because we buy the metals of Mexico, the coffee and bunances of Central America, Colombia

.



lembia, the oil of Venesuela. In these countries, our geographical location must always give us the edge. We can take the code of Brasil but not its sotion; so fix trade will naturally divide between Europe and the United States. It is in Argestina and Chile that our troubles come. We cannot take the ment, estion and wool of the Argestina besines we produce these products countries. The same applies to the appear and nitrates of Chile. We cannot sell unless we buy and that is a far greater obstacle than all Mexidom.

Mendolm.

It must not be forgotten that Germany put on an hatmative drive for trade in South America in the period 1980-1988, and if my recollection of the figures is correct, while Germany's pursonings of the trade gained admewhat, the gain was not large, and it was largely at the expense of Great Britain; our trade declined only a fraction of one per cent.

We'll Get Our Share of Foreign Trade!

We'll Get Our Share of Foreign Trade! No man can forstall the future, but as long as we have products South America can use and above all, if they have products we can use, we will get our full share of the trade. As for Asis, the amor remarks pertain as to Europe. Japan needs no far more than we need her. Our trade with Japan intridestally runs between five and six times the trade of Chins, whom we are making such great efforts to help. Even if Japan gets control of the Dutch East Indies—and that is not assured—she is going to be more auxitions to asil ou rubber and tim to estain deliar suchange than we are to buy the products. And if war with Japan comes, we can get Bolivian tin and develop our apathetic rubber. We are serially as recourseful as the Germane who are filling 80% of their rubber requirements with the synthetic article.

article.
In 1837 Colombia's trade with us was 188,000,000 perce, with Germany 40,000,800. Of Venezuela's trade, the United States took 12.5% of their imports and furnished 55% of the experts, Germany 18.6%. Of Costa Rica's imports, 42.5% some from the United States, 25% from Germany. Of her experts 45% went to the United States and 19.5% to Germany.

As for lack of organization, if needs be, we can meet five with five; we can not up expect cortoin and mean persheating organizations and we can do this without deaper to our system.

10

The Americas Must Stand Together!
American like myself feel that our true mission is in North America and South America. We stand today in an untrailed position. With our resources and organizing shilly we can develop, with our Canadian friends, an only partially developed contents like North America and a virgit continent. Miss South America. The reorganization and proper development of Maxico alone would afford an outlet for our capital and energies for some time to seems. And while I think we should sale make it clearly understood that no government in Maxico. Central America and the Caribbean South America contral America and the Caribbean South America contral America and the Caribbean South America countries can be tolerated unless it is friendly to the United States and that we will make every affort to prevent the spread of totalitarian influence there.

Instead of what seems to be a same objective we are on the verge of throwing our treasure and our blood into a European war, with consequences that go one can foretell.

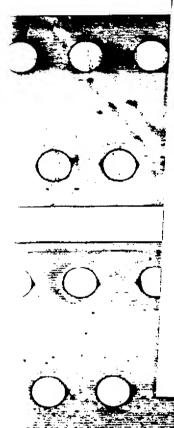
I respect the bonest views of bonest American, no matter how opposed they way be to my own, but there are two matters that I resent: First is the attempt to smear any eas opposed to what I night call the majority publicised viewpoint of what we should do in this war. When the editor of a New York "newspaper" denounces Col. Lindbergh as the head of the Fifth Collumn in the U. S., we have reached the summit of smed slinging. You may feel he has made serious mistakes, but you have no right to demonor a coursquous, patriotic American citizen as a traitor merely because he disagrees with your view. This is as a bed as the Nexte, an attempt to suppress freedom of speech.

The other point I reasnt is the way the issue is being appress freedom of speech.

The other point I reasnt is the way the issue is being adjed into the war without the masses' knowledge. We have the anomalous situation of the polis aboving a majority of the people gravering a course that is bound to get us into the war, whi The Americas Must Stand Together!

How Wars Are Sold to Us

Many of my bearers were adults at the time of the previous war and were familiar with the prepaganda that led up to that war. If you want to know the



history of that propaganda and its fainity, read a book by Sir Philip Gibbs with the title of "New It Can Be Told," in which he admitted the out-response the talk wars perpetrated on the American public. And Sir Philip Gibbs was no German but the bading English war correspondent, knighted by his Ring. The Loadon Economist in a recent issue at the war and a sunty a question of time until American public spinsion could be brought to the point where we would not sunty the sunty and the sunty of the people who are advositively enter the war.

I helieve a majority of the people who are advositively enter the war.

I helieve a majority of the people who are of the sunty file war, who are taking the mecanary steps to prepare the American people for active participation, who would enter it tomerrow if they dared, who are today in practical lines with England, and unfortunately they are the people who are ahaping our mational policy today. You hear in Washington today that we are any new in the war. You hear predictions from men, and men who cought to know, that we will actively enter the war within sixty days after the election.

The American people should think this matter through. The course we are pursuing is bound to involve as in the war. You cannot have your government in an unofficial allience with a foreign power, you cannot be a meddler in Indo-China, bette the little and commany electron of war west made in 1917 originally it was informed to send only the Navy to the assistance of the Allies.

Man-Pewer, Too!

Man-Power, Too!

Juffer came over in the spring of 1917, teld the plight of the Fynch Army after the 1917 spring Champagne offensive, where whole divisions of the French Army mutined, and implemed us to send over a token force, otherwise France would collapse. We sent Fershing and the First Division, about 30,000 men. Then came the impending collapse of Russia, france to the prending collapse of Russia, france calls for more men, then the great German offensive of 1918 and the rest of the Russia France.

First Army, more frantic appeals, until finally we put under arms 4,800,000 men, sent 2,000,000 men.

to France, spent 20 billion dellars and had 180,000 ensualties. I need not refer to our treatment by our former allies after the Armisice. They took the lact, we did not even get thanks.

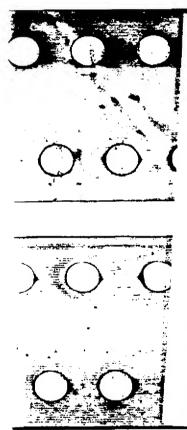
I do not exten agree with the editorials on foreign policy in my friend Frank Knor's paper, but there is a recent editorial with which I am in 100% agreement. The editorial quoted two recent aspectes by both Presidential candidates in which both pledged themselves never to send American hops to France. The editorial spoke of both these pledges as political bunk and very truly stated that if we entered the war we would enter it to win, and, if necessary to win, we would send an expeditionary force—and that is the absolute truth.

The People Must Know the Truth

The issue should be honestly presented to the people. If we aid Britain, short of war and beyond the limits of the Neotrality Act, it ultimately means war and should mean war. If we enter the war, we must eater it with all our strength in men and money. That is the only way to win a war.

eater it with all our strength in men and money. That is the only way to win a war.

If the military reports from abread are correct, I feel there is no doubt that Great Britain can defend her island, her dominions like Canada, Amstralia and New Zealand. Bhe may lose Egypt, the Steen and Gibratar, though this is entremely doubtful. So far the Italian have shown no signs of real selfentive strength. There is little doubt that England can make a negotiated peace by which she can keep her deet and her colonies, but which will leave Germany the sconomic control of Western Europe. But she cannot decisively defeat Germany madded. Her to gain a decisive victory we will have to nextivally mater the war. One of the great mistakes made by they thought they could win a safe seconomical war, with Prance string behind the Magricot him and England maintaining its bleckade, with little expenditures of bleed and a minimum expenditure of temeurs. For us to actival water the war means ships, planes, meany, men, expeditionary forces. That is the issue that mant ultimatally be presented to the American people, and it should be presented epochy, honestly and squarely.



Our Own Democracy Will Be Sacrificed

In deciding the large, the American people should be deciding the large, the American people should be should be costs. We start with a dasht of \$80,000,000,000.

With the shormous cost of warping modern war, the cast of sending forces over \$0,000 miles of cosan, or magazing our savy in the Far East, we would ultimines or decidental, we will be faced at the conclusion of such a wate will be faced at the conclusion of such a wate will be faced at the conclusion of such a wate will be faced at the conclusion of such a wate will be faced at the conclusion of such as water will be faced at the conclusion of such as water will be faced at the conclusion of the such as water will be faced at the conclusion of the such as well as the such as the such as well as the such as the such

wared, it probably spells the end of capitalism all ever the world.

Deficind America First, Last, Always I would unhestatingly say to throw everything we have into a war to defend the United States or our capital states of the same that the same that the same time and the same time and continent and part, if not all, of the South American continent. I do not think the American people should make these macrifices to interfere in the quarrels of Europe and Asia, old, sick and overpopulated continents with ancient rivalries that cannot be healed. It is up to the American people to decide whether they want to make these sacrifices are preserve not England but the British Empire, and help regulate England but the British Empire, and help regulate England but the British Empire, and help regulate decideor is given affermatively, I think you will find Americans like myself, who advantage will find Americans like myself, who advantage will be at heir posts of duty in the service of the security. I make the court of the theory of the total of the same of

Additional copies of this speech can be obtained Assertion First Committee, 141 West Jackson B vard, Chicago, Illinois.

AMERICA FIRST COMMITTEE Membership and Contribution Blank

I am a patriotic American citims and agree with the principles of the America First Committee

Enroll me as a member.

Address

Soul the application to AMERICA FIRST COMMITTEE 141 West Jackson Boulevard

Chicago, Hinds

*FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

4246238	THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT	CHICAGO		PILE NO.	100-6882
SYNOPSIS OF PACTS: America First name first used by JAMESTRUE Associates in 1934, Washington, B. C. TRUE allegedly pro-Wazi propagandist. America First Committee proper originated by R. DOUGLAS STUART, JR. in spring of 1940 on Tale University cambus. Developed through political backing to reported 15 million followers. "No Foreign Wars Committee," directed by isolationist VERNE MARSHALL and Set up to counteract criticism of America First in REC. REC'D 23 : Searly stages, extinct by March, 1941. America First RED'T FORW. 27 : 75 financed by contribution; reported to have been supported active in America First set out. Committee planned new political party to be known as American Party. Local chapter, preceded by peace meetings; officially formed December 11, 1940, at home of Interest of Milliam R. Castle, former Under-Secretary of State. Five prominent Washington women appointed to direct. Activities set out. Names of America First Committee chairmen from other localities set out. Local persons active in America First and related movements alleged to be presently engaged in subversive activities get out. History of America First and related movements alleged to the presently engaged in subversive activities get out. History of America First and related Maylland Company. America			WHICH MADE	REPORT MADE BY	b20
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REFERENCES:

Bureau letters, March 16, 1942, and March 26, 1942; Teletype from the Bureau, May 11, 1942.

DETAILS:

At Washington, D. C.

stated that the America First Committee was eight years in the making, the name having originated in 1934, with America First, Inc. Headquarters of this organization were in the National Press Building, Washington, D. C., with JAMES TRUE as director.

from America First, Inc., JAMES TRUE, President, charging many of the men in charge of various government departments were at that time or had been affiliated with Socialistic or Communistic movements, and that the subversive front organizations were destroying the democratic form of government in the United States.

that most of the Bund and similar It was learned from organizations were pinched down in 1940 and early 1941 and went out of existence. Periodicals changed their names, and open Nazism became camouflaged related that the turning point came with the into American Fascism. emergence of the American First Committee under totally respectable direction. Concerning the founding of the America First Committee proper, he stated that a group of twenty students on the Yale University campus were organized early in 1940 by 24-year old law student R. DOUGLAS STUART, JR., son of the First Vice President of Quaker Oats Company. This group attracted the attention of CHESTER BOWLES of Benton and Bowles, Inc., import advertising agency, then WILLIAM R. CASTLE, Washington, D. C., former Under-Secretary of State, and former imbassador to Japan. Many other influential persons began to join the circle, including PHILLIR LAFOLLETE, ex-Governor of Wisconsin, Senator BURTON K. WHEELER of Montana, and General ROBERT E. WOOD.

Using this Yale group as a front, tated that the political minds invited CHARLES A. LINDEERGH, who on October 30, 1940, prophesied victory of the totalitarian powers. After this, General WOOD, who was considered second only in command under PERSHING in the last war, took active charge. The Committee set out to organize the nation through the mails and issued its first official notice on November 11, 1940. The America First Committee was criticized because of a Jewish individual on the National Board related that the "No Foreign Wars Committee" of the Committee, and was organized with VERNE MARSHALL, Editor of the Cedar Rapids (Iowa) Gazette, as leader to remedy the situation. His mission as chairman, to which he was persuaded to act by LINDEERGH, was to whip up the emotions of the extremist groups, mobilizing them under a single leadership. According to MARSHALL spotlighted the national attention on the isolationist issue and did so well that he put his committee on a parallel with the America First related that LINDBERGH Committee and endangered its existence. denounced NARSHALL as an anti-Semite and that after three months of barnstorming, MARSHALL was persuaded to quit. He stated that the literature while



was requested before the committee folded up contained standard material distributed at Bund and Christian Front meetings. The No Foreign Wars Committee was virtually extinct by March, 1941, and the America First Committee is reported to have been sole heir to all of its mailing and membership lists, which included the names of sincere isolationists, sundry appearers, and pro-Nazi sympathizers.

related that in making application for membership in the America First Committee, he wrote down his affiliations with pro-Nazi and other subversive organizations to see what would be the reaction, and stated that they just smiled and nodded. He related that the America First Committee was not merely an isolationist organization, but also the spearhead of an American Fascist movement, and stated that it was headed for a totalitarian movement, which may not flower for many years. He stated that America First was too deeply polluted by the Fascist crowd for redemption, and related that a political movement was being crystallized out of the America First organization.

by the anti-administration businessmen and industrialists with an overwhelming following of appeasers, Nazis, Fascists, and other enemies of a
democratic way of life. He stated that the Committee aimed to use the war
and its aftermath as an opportunity for totalitarian anti-democratic revolution. He stated that nearly all Fascist or near Fascist groups in the United
States gave support openly or secretly to the America First, and that the
Bund, Christian Front, and Silver Shirts maintained separate existence, but
devoted their best energies to the America First movement. He stated that
it was a mass movement meshed with a great many other groups; that it claimed
to have 15 million signed members with many outstanding figures included;
and that more than one hundred representatives and thirty-one senators were
known to be in sympathy openly or clandestinely with the America First movement.

chapter, tried to weed out the Fastist element and denounced JOSEPH MCWILLIAMS leader of Christian Mobilizers, and also support from the Bund. In ploing so, he made many enemies. He stated that the Nazi propaganda technique and America First methods were very similar.

referred to a report of the Americanism Committee of the American Legion of Los Angeles, which related how the Bund went undergrount and Bundists swung into America First efforts. This report reflected the names of various pro-Nazi and pro-Fascist sympathizers who were closely associated with America First in Los Angeles. Their names and associations with America First are as follows:

F. K. FERENZ, distributor of subversive books, exhibitor of Nazi films, and publisher of a swastika decorated volume of essays entitled "Hitler," attended 21 America First meetings between March and August, 1941. JOHN LARIEMER, who testified that "a German Consulate had paid \$215 for printing part of the literature he had been sending from Los Angeles," extensively advertized America First in connection with his mailing of Nazi propaganda.

HENJAMIN FRANKLIN BULLARD, organizer of the Mamerican Guards which sponsored Hitler-styled abolition of labor unions, was a distributor of Nazi propaganda and chairman of the down town chapter of America First in Los Angeles.

T. W. HUCHES, founder of the Bund reenforced "League to Save America First," conducted meetings largely directed to incite intolerance and class dissensions, and was the author of "The Truth About England," which was sold at America First meetings.

Mrs. FAITH McCULLOUGH, alias Mrs. FRANCES WAXEY, former secretary to German agent PAQUITA LOUISE DeSHISHMARIFF, was active in the Pasadena and Glendale chapters, and was a close associate of WILLIAM HUNT, chairman of the Glendale chapter of America First.

JAMES MCBRIDE, Bund storm trooper, and his wife, a Deutches Haus waitress, attended 23 meetings of the Committee.

BRUCE TARKINGTON DOWDEN co-operated with F. K. FERENZ and advocated a "whispering campaign" to slur the morals of teachers who support defense programs.

Regarding conditions elsewhere in the country, related that DONALD SHEA, leader of the National Gentile League and veteran pro-Nazi, spoke to America First Committee meetings in Chicago, Cincinnati, and Indianapolis.

bundist type organization, urged its members to assist them (America First) financially and morally. In Detroit and Philadelphia, Reverend GERALD K. FISH, ex-member of the Silver Shirts Legion, a militarist organization based on a Nazi model, spoke at several big rallies. In New Rochelle, WILLIAM J. WAXTER, propagandist for the Japanese and political associate of Father COUGHLIN, was head of the America First chapter. At Peekskill, New York, Reverend JOHN COLE MCKIM, columnist for a Japanese propaganda weekly which is registered at the State Department, headed the chapter.

new party to be known as the "American" or "Christian" Party, which will swing into action before the next election.

In this regard, reference is made to a speech made by PHILLIP LAFOLLETTE on November 1, 1941, in Washington, D. C., at a convention of

America First chapter chairmen and delegates. This speech was broadcast over the Columbia network and expressed the anti-administration isolationist sentiments of the America First Committee. During this speech, IAFOLLETTE made several references to the American Party as opposed to the War Party and urged the support of his listeners in his efforts to curb the progress of the administration. A copy of this speech is being forwarded to the Bureau.

made available subversive files which reflect that on June 7, 1940, the "Peoples' Anti-War Mobilization" was held at the Raleigh Hotel. Its sponsors were the "National Council for Prevention of War," "Womens' International League for Peace and Freedom," "World Peaceways," "Keep America Out of War Congress," "Fellowship of Reconciliation," "War Resisters League," and the "Youth Committee Against War." 1,300 persons from 19 states and 95 cities attended this meeting. JOHN T. FLYNN (later America First leader in New York City) presided; and, several prominent persons, including Senstor BURTON K. WHEELER and NORMAN L. THOMAS, Socialist Party candidate, addressed them.

Reference is made to Bureau letter dated March 16, 1942, with memorandum attached, wherein on page 3, it is reported that DORO THY DETZER was one of the organizers and is said to consider herself the brain of the America First Committee. DOROTHY DETZER, who is the executive secretary of the Womens International League for Peace and Freedom, was present at the aforementioned meeting on June 10, 1940, and spoke. Possibly this information concerning her as an organizer of the local chapter may have originated from the fact that she was present and active at the aforementioned meeting.

files reflect that pledges of

money were sought at this meeting to aid in the fight, and \$1,200 of cash was contributed.

A review of the Morgue of the Washington Evening Star reflects that the local America First unit was officially organized on December 11, 1940, at a meeting of approximately one hundred people at the home of WILLIAM R. CASTLE, former Under Secretary of State. Five persons were authorized to direct its activities. Those named were Mrs. BURTON K. WHEELER, Mrs. ALICE ROOSEVELT MONGWORTH, Miss KATHRIN LEWIS (daughter of JOHN L. LEWIS), Mrs. WILLIAM R. SASTLE, and Mrs. BENNETT CHAMP CLARK, wife of Senator CLARK of Missouri who was named as chairman. The officers named were Mrs. WHEELER, Treasurer; Mrs. FRANK SEMONIS, Secretary; Mrs. FRANK WEST, Chairman of the Membership Committee; and Mrs. COURTIAND BARNES, Chairman of the Finance Committee. They issued the following statement at this meeting:

"The America First Committee, we believe, represents the opinion of the majority of the people of the United States in opposing our entry into the war. It is not in any way anti-British and feels that in keeping out of

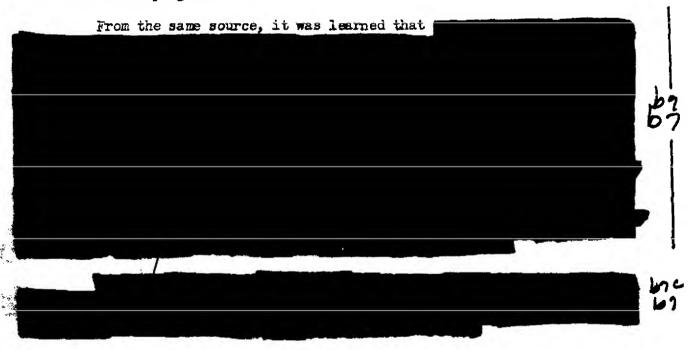
the war, this country is helping Britain more than in any other way. The Committee favors all aid to England within the existing neutrality laws and within whatever limits are compatible with the laws of the United States. It does not believe that the denuding of the defense of this country is compatible with the tremendous defense program to which our country is committed."

The first meeting of the Committee was held in the National Theater with 1,500 persons present on February 2, 1941. Governor PHILLIP IAFOLLETTE, JOHN T. FLYNN, Krs. ROBERT TAFT, and Mrs. BENNETT CHAMP CLARK spoke. On May 18, 1941, Senator VANDENBERG of Michigan spoke at a luncheon meeting at the Raleigh Hotel.

On May 26, a large ad appeared in the newspapers signed by R. E. WOOD, Chairman of the Committee, challenging the President to repeat his statement that there would be no second A.E.F. On August 7, Representative SOUTHOFF, Progressive from Wisconsin, told them that the government was driving the United States into war.

The Morgue of the Washington Star reflects that Mrs. HAMILTON FISH and also one ISABEL FRENCH became active.

made available his files which reflect that the America First 67. Committee maintained its office at 126 C Street, N. E., and a research bureau at 142 B Street, N. E., which prepared and circulated form letters concerning the isolationist program.





During the investigation of the Registration case entitled LAURA TNGALIS, it was learned by the writer that the America First Committee held weekly meetings at the Friends Keeting House in Washington, D. C., through the spring, summer, and early fall months of 1941. The aforementioned wives of isolationist senators were most active in the Committee meetings.

that Women United, Inc., affiliated women's organization of New York City, staged a demonstration on May 14, 1941, at which time 500 women came by train from New York City led by Mrs. HALL MERRICK, President, and convened in the Caucus Room of the Senate Office Building, where they were addressed by KATHIEFN NORRIS, novelist, and Representative WILLIAM T. FIFER of New York and Representative JEANETTE RADCLIFFE of Montana. Following the meeting, they dispersed in small groups to deliver isolationist pleas to various senators and Congressmen.

they staged similar demonstrations on August 13, 1941, and on October 10, 1941.

The writer observed another demonstration of the same type staged by the Brooklyn chapter of the America First Committee at the Senate and House Office Buildings late in October, 1941.

Investigation conducted in the Registration Act case entitled GEORGE SYLVESTER VIEW CK, disclosed considerable information concerning the America First activities in connection with

America First Committee would no longer carry on, the offices in Washington, D. C., at 1712 Connecticut Avenue, were closed; and, since that time, no further official activity has taken place. An anonymous inquiry made by the writer at the office of the America First Committee during the investigation of the LAURA INGALIS case resulted in information that the America First Committee of Washington, D. C., was being disbanded and would no longer carry on a program of any nature.

A review of the files of the Washington Field Office reflects the following information concerning persons active in America First and related isolationist activities in Washington, D. C.

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is reported to have been employed in the . Research Bureau of the America First Committee. JAMES THUE was reported by to have obtained a patent in 1934 on aspecial night stick which he called the "kike killer," and developed into one of the most effective Nazi transmitters in this country. He stated that TRUE'S "industrial control reports" became a Rible for American Fascists and that his offices were a clearing house for anti-democratic, anti-Semitic, and pro-German propaganda. He stated that TRUE is an intimate friend of WILLIAM DUDLEY RELLEY, leader of the Silver Shirts, FHI TZ WUHN, leader of the German-American Bund, and JOSEPH McHILLIAMS. ISABEL FRENCH, who is reported to have been Office Manager of the America First Committee in Washington, D. C., is reported by stated, "We of America First believe that you can come to an understanding and do business with HITLER. The interventionists think you can't come to an understanding and do business with HITLER."

CATHERINE CURTIS, National Chairman of Womens Investors of America, which sponsored women's national committee to keep the United States out of war in 1939 as successor to the Women's National Committee to Keep Hands Off the Suprems Court, is a well known organizer in Washington. Her activities as such were closely related to those of the America First Committee proper, and she worked closely with many women's organizations affiliated with America First, and presently is reported to be engaged in a telephone whispering campaign.

MICHAEL AHERN, former associate of JAMES TRUE and active in isolationist groups collaborating in Washington with America First, is presently employed as executive assistant to CATHERINE CURTIS and

DOROTHY DETZER, reported to have been instrumental in the organization of the America First Committee, is executive secretary of the Women's International League for Peace and Freedom. Files of the Washington Field Office reveal that the league is still in existence with offices at 1734 F Street, N. W., from which is issued its bulletin "Four Lights," a copy of which reflects that the league is now pledged to serve the country in its war effort and is devoting attention to post-war problems. Miss DETZER spoke on March 16, 1941, over the America Forum of the Air from Washington, claiming the administration was dragging the United States into the war and that fanatic new order in Europe could only be conquored by an alternative new

GEORGE EDWARD SHILLTVAN.

nas

been engaged for years in writing various pamphiets denouncing the administra-

AGNES, VATERS,

order for the United States.

on the same anti-administration isolationist program that she instituted several months ago and openly advocating by mimeographed letters and speeches the death penalty for President ROOSEVELT, as a traitor to his country. A news clipping dated April 17, 1942, reflects that she spoke in Philadelphia, on that date, and reference is made to an article entitled "Voices of Defeat," which appeared in the April 13, 1942, issue of Life Magazine, wherein it is stated that on February 24, 1942, Mrs. WATERS appeared before a meeting of "We the Mothers Mobilize for America, Inc." on the south side in Chicago, Illinois, and advocated that ROOSEVELT be impeached or court martialed. It will be noted that exhibits being forwarded to the Bureau as enclosures with this report contain considerable information about We the Mothers Mobilize for America, Inc., which is reported to be still actively engaged in an anti-administration movement.

O. K. AMISTRONG, Springfield, Missouri, was active in America First matters. Investigation in the case entitled LAURA INGALLS; REGISTRATION ACT, disclosed that ma

The files of the Washington Field Office in the case entitled LAURA INGAILS; REGISTRATION ACT, reflects the names of the following persons who were active in the America First Committee chapters in different localities:

Mrs. A. J. PHILLIPS,

Bogota, New Jersey.

Mrs. M. IN TENNY,

Chicago, Illinois

Mr. FRANZVIERONTZ Neillsville, Wisconsin - Chairman

Mr. WILLIAM WELLSMANN, Neillsville, Wisconsin

Mrs. ZEREGA,

Los Angeles, California.

GEORGE SCHITT and son, Appleton, Wisconsin

IANSINA HOYT, State Chairman, Wisconsin, Appleton, Wisconsin

Mrs. KETCHIAN, Chairman, Racine, Wisconsin

Mrs. RIESCHALL, Chairman, Kenosha, Wisconsin

Mrs. SPENCER PENHOSE, THOMAS McCARTHY, Colorado Springs, Colorado

ARTHUR & BROOKS, JR., Rev. M. ALLEN KEITH, Chairman, Grand Junction, Colorado

FRED FLELLING,
MAIDA LARSHALL,
Mrs. CLAUDE K. BOETTCHER,
GIFFORD PHILLIPS,
Denver, Colorado

J. C. SEIDEMAN,

Kenosha, Wisconsin

Mrs. E. T. KELL,

Gary, Indiana

Mrs. W. J. BRANDT, Chairman of the Women's Auxiliary, Gary, Indiana.

The literature seized at the time of the arrest of LAURA INGALIS contained a large quantity of speakers' bulletins, committee releases, and isolationist material which was distributed by the America First Committee, and is being forwarded to the Bureau as an enclosure with this report.

Also contained in the literature seized at this time is a large quantity of correspondence and other isolationist material circulated by We the Mothers Mobilize for America, Inc., at Chicago. This organization is reported to be still active; and, its activities are so related to those of the America First Committee that this material, which is being forwarded to the Bureau as an enclosure with this report, may be of interest in the investigation being conducted in the instant case.

Bulletins issued by the Patriotic Research Bureau of Chicago, Illinois, directed by ELIZABET DILLING, well known foe of the administration, which were obtained from the same source are likewise being submitted as enclosures to the Bureau with this report for the same purpose. Miscellaneous pamphlets and isolationist publications obtained from the same source are also being forwarded to the Bureau as enclosures.

Due to the fact that those persons presently believed to be actively engaged in carrying on activities of the America First Committee are all subjects of independent investigations, no further investigation is being conducted on the America First Committee proper.

ENCLOSURES: TO BUREAU

1. Copy of speech given by Governor PHILLIP LaFOLIETTE at a convention of America First Committee chairmen, November 1, 1941, Washington, D. C.







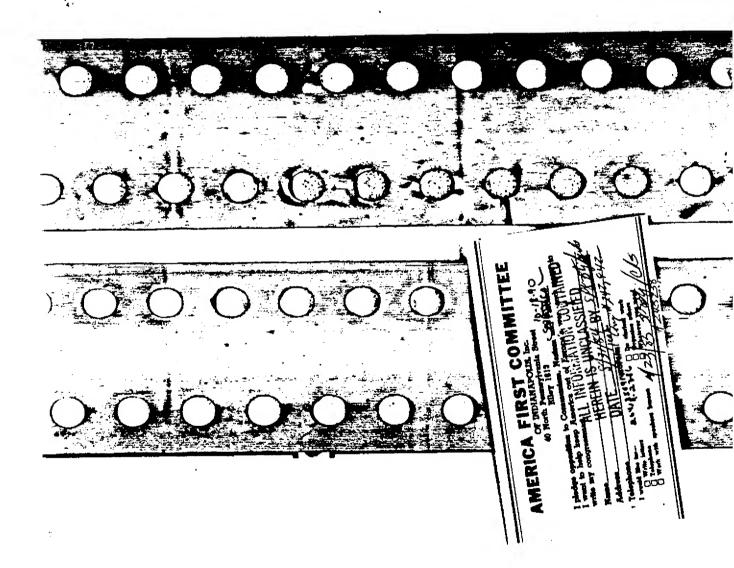
- 2. Pamphlets entitled "Can Hitler Invade America?", "I Hate War," "Our Foreign Policy," by General ROBERT E. WOOD, "Can Hitler Cripple America's Economy?", "Mr. President," "The British Invasion of America," "The Truth About England, " and "The New Europe."
- 3. Speakers' bulletins, cartoons, and press releases issued by the Committee Headquarters of the America First Committee in Chicago, Illinois.
- 4. Speakers' bulletins issued by the southern California division of the America First Committee.
- 5. Bulletins issued by Patriotic Research Bureau, ELIZABETH DILLING, Director.
- 6. Correspondence, bulletins, and report of convention on September 27 and 28, 1941, issued from We the Wothers Mobilize for America, Inc., Chicago, Illinois.
- 7. Niscellaneous isolationist anti-administration pamphlets and bulletins issued by Mothers Mobilizing Against War, Milwaukee, Wisconsin; Women's International League for Peace and Freedom; Parents of America, St. Paul, Minnesota; and other anti-administration organizations and individuals.

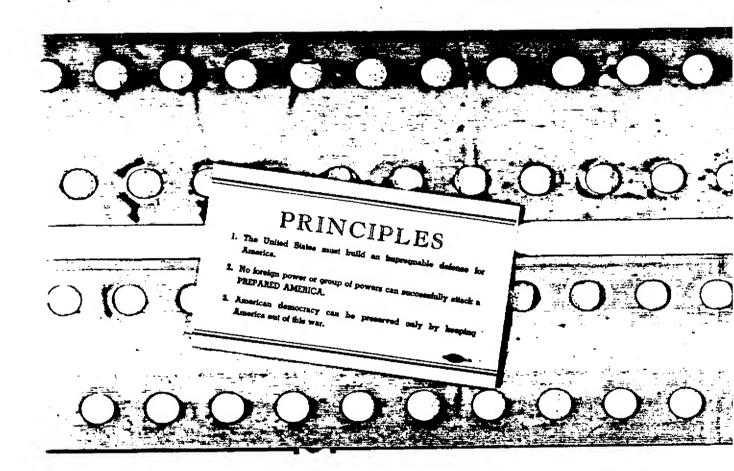
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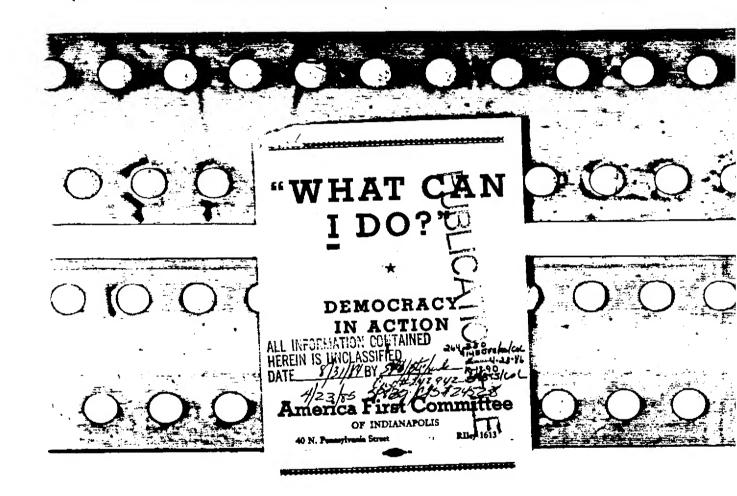
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION FOIPA DELETED PAGE INFORMATION SHEET

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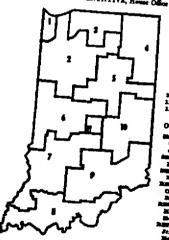






TODAY AND EVERY TEN DAYS-WRITE TO

- L PRESIDENT FRANKLIN D. ROOSEVELT, White House, Washings
- 2. YOUR SENATORS, Session Office Bidg., Washington, D. C. RAYMOND & WILLIS and PREDERICE VAN NUVS
- S. YOUR REPRESENTATIVE, House Office Building, Washington, D. C.



REPRESENTATIVES

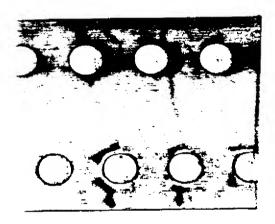
- REPRESENTATIVES

 TO WILLIAM T. RESULTS

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- OTHER KRY OFFICIALS
- DEL TON CONTRACT.





BAY IT AGAIN, Mr. President! ...

Four Boys Are Not Going to Be Sout
Into Any Foreign Wars.

"And while I am talking to you, fathers and methers, I give
you one more sumrance. I have said this before, but I shall say it
apain, and apain, and again, your boys are not poing to be sent into
me facular mars.

again, and again, and again, year any form a facor so strong that, one foreign suers.

"They are going into training to focm a facor so strong that, by its very existence, it will keep the threat of war far away from our shores. Yes, the purpose of our defense is defense."

Boston, Oct. 30, 1940

Meeten, Oct. 30, 1940
Stay Out of the War Zones.

"In 1935 in the face of growing dangers throughout the world, your government undertook to eliminate the hazards which in the past had led to war. We made it does that ships flying the American flag could not carry manifeless to a belligerest; and that they must stay out of our wors."

New York City. Oct. 28, 1940

I Am Pighting to Enop Out of
Personn Warn.

"I am fighting to keep this nation prosperous and at peace.
I am fighting to keep our people out of foreign wars and to keep
foreign conceptions of government out of our United States."

Brooklyn, Nov. 1, 1940

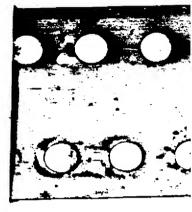
Brooklyn, Nov. 1, 1940
The Pinst Purpose of Our Foreign Policy
Is to Keep Out of War.

"We look at the old world of Europe inday. It is an ugly world, possoned by hatred, and greed and fear. We can see what has been the inevitable consequence of that poison—it has been the inevitable consequence of that poison—it has been the inevitable consequence of that poison—it has been war.

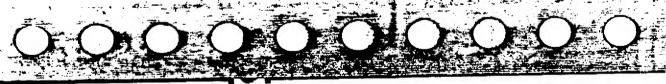
"And we look at this country, built by generations of peace-able, friendly men and women who had in their hearth faith—faith that the good life can be obtained by those who work for it.

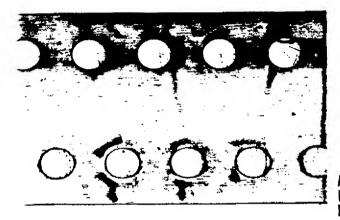
"We know that we are determined to defend our country and with our neighbors to defend this hemisphere. We are strong in our defense.

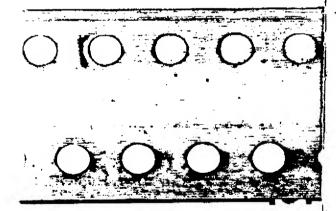
"The first purpose of our foreign policy is to heep our country out of user."











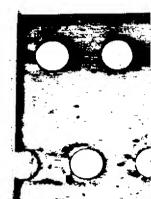
Can Hitler Invade

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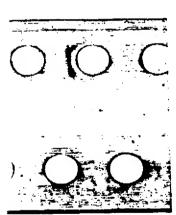
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The facts in this pumphlet were seasible for the America First Committee by John T. Flynn from Information

AMERICA FIRST COMMITTEE-National Headquarters 141 West Jackson Mvd., Chicago, III.









QUOTATIONS OF LEADING MILITARY AUTHORITIES

"No fereign power or group of powers can operate across the ocean and stand in combet with the Asserteen Navy and planes operating from home beens."—Admiral William S. Sime, shortly before his

"Of source there is no possibility over of may hardle attack so either of our casets."—Rear Admiral W. W. Phelps, Nov. 18, 1938.

"I do not think that any flost could over make a landing an effective force on our coast, whether we had a may or not, provided there are stough shore-hased aircraft available. . I do not think that any thinking person over fools that any nation can sec-constilly invade our country leaving out the air-craft or maything circ."—Eonr Admiral Cook, 1936.

"Considered from the defensive standpoint Amer-"Lunstered from the parenters management America in the strungent military nation on the earth-that is, it is the easiest nation to propers for defensive warfare. It would not take much to make it invalingable against may nation or combination of nations that might be brought to bear against it." -Major General Hagood, 1937.

"Our float IS LARGE ENOUGH TO HANDLE "Our fleet IS LARCE ENOUGH TO HANDLE SIMULTANBOUSLY A COMBINATION OF EN-HMIES, being about as large as Britain's centered fleet, considerably superior to Japan's, three times as large as Italy's, four times stranger than Ger-many's, only slightly inferior to the combined savies of all three totalitarian nations, and far stranger in moval svintion than any movy in the world." House, W. Baldwin, July, 1939.

"Continuedal United States, even without the en-treerdinary defense measures adopted by Congress, is well-nigh imprograble. Be are its entlying par-ematical, accept the Pillippines, Walls and Geam-monthly one he brought to a point of nompletmens with relatively small additional effort. --- Hanson W. Baldwin, July, 1929.

CAN HITLER INVADE AMERICA?

THIS little pamphlet is intended to answer the quantion—Can Editor Invade America? This is a very important question. It is important because Americans are told that this terrible war in Europe is our war.

in Europe is ear war.

It is called our war because, we are told, if Hitler defeats England the United States is next as the liet. Having crushed England and taken the English mavy, it is said, he will then INVADE AMERICA. And because so many people believe this to be true they are willing to go to any lengths to aid Britain to defeat Hitler.

This whole argument turns on one point—that Hitler, after he defeats England, CAN INVADE AMERICA. And so the great question is —

Now then, let us begin at the beginning.

There is no doubt that Hitler and his great Nazi army is a powerful military machine. There is also no doubt that Hitler will stop at nothing to gain his objectives—to take any country that he wants.

He overran Caschoslovskia and Poland swiftly. Then be turned to overrun Norway, Denmark, Holland, Belgium, France in startling quick auc-

Became he could do this we are warned that he can do the same thing to the United States and that the only thing that protects us from Hitler is the British navy.

Let us see therefore just what Hitler would require in order to invade the United States.

First of all, we start out with the fact that all these countries put together — Poland, Czechoslowskia, Norway, Denmark, Holland, Balgium, Franca—are much smaller than the United States.

Their total populations equal 110,000,000. Our total population is 180,000,000.

focal population is 180,000,000.

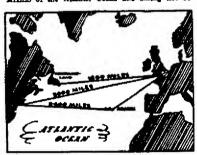
They were divided into seven different countries. Each one was small compared with Germany. They were scattered around Germany's rim. Hitler oseld attack such one separately. And each one separately that the United States is a unified country—a single nation—and the attack would be against the whole United States.

the whole United States.

In the next place, all these countries were right on Germany's land frontiers. In such uses all he had to do was to roll across their land borders and he was inside their gutes. They had fortresses, herricades. But these were nothing against his vast mechanical equipment. When he had defeated France he turned to fight England. Germany has on Hillon population and a grantic army and an air force three the size of Britain's. England has only 50 million people. But when Hitler surmed on England there was the English Channel couly 23 miles wide at its Barrowest point. This is only about haif the distance from Washington to Baltimore: But when he faced that problem

of crossing that narrow strip of water—he has not yet, after fitteen months of war and seven months since France fell, even attempted to cross it with soldiers or tanks.

When he attempts to invade the United States—or Canada—he would have to face the problem of crossing with his armies THREE THOUSAND MILES of the Atlantic Ocean and facing not 50



The problem of invaling England is all comprised in the small circle. There is a nervous soil of one-less than 26 miles at its nervous point—which Gormany must rous to invade England subser with an array or with planes. Sending planes over, of course, is a simple matter as far as distance is concerned. But invades the United States or Comada noams invooring the invasuus milenge of ocean obther to Nice York or Newfounding or from the Assers or other equally distant parts.

million people on a small island with but small natural resources, but a vast nation with 130 million people and resources far exceeding his own. Now let us look at this problem as realistically as possible. Just what would be the jeb that Hitler would have on his hands?

Hitler would have on his hands? of Hitler's armise, In what does that might essaint? His armise are mighty because they are equipped with an endless supply of tanks, armored trucks, suaching guas and great camon and morters, anti-aircraft guas and sati-tank grass and great metercycle squadrous and planes. His army was no longer an army on feet. It was an army in trucks and in tanks planning against its severacies and mowing them down and rolling over them.

Of segree if Hitler over attempted to merica he would have to bring not uni-ldiers but all this equipment. Without wald be helplass.

gence. We know that they are not coming to Amer-ica with a handful of men—they are not going to attempt to conquer us without bringing enough men here to do the job. How many men would that be?

When Hitler invaded little Norway he sent \$6,000 men.

When Mussollni attacked Ethiopia he used half a million mer—When Hitler went into Poland— just across his borders and with only 36 million population—he marched with 1,000,000 men.

When he moved against Holland, Belgium and Prance he used not less than TWO MILLION MEN. Estimates place the number far higher.

MEN. Estimates place the number far higher.

New is it not a fair assumption that to defeat
the United States here he would have to have at
least se many men as he took into France? Does
anyone suppose that Hitler could conquer this
country with anything less than three or four
million men? He would have to have an army
that size and all the equipment necessary to make
it irresistible.

But let us suppose, however, that Hitler was crany enough to try to beat the United States with a more milities mean. Just how much equipment would be have to bring along with the men to make them effective? The mass of war instruments that such an army requires staggers the imagination.

The following figures are based on the equipment carried by American army units and are, therefore, very much under what the German army units

This army would require:

2,520 75mm, field guns 1,120 155m, howitzers 19.320 machine guns 7,770 automatic rifles 6,980 morters 2.500 anti-tank guns

1,610 tractors \$5.590 trucks 1,756 ambulances
1,120 pessenger cars
450 air-compressors 19,820 trailers 4 KAA tanka 7,910 motorcycles 450 at 70 electric lighting sets

Pienes:

1,830 light bembers 1,850 possuit planes (a total of 9,800 planes)

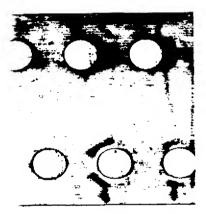
Anti-aircraft guns:

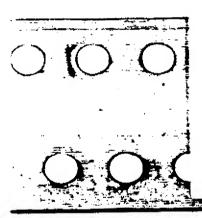
1,680 27mm, AA guns \$40 2mm, AA gone 1,680 .50 callies AA grans

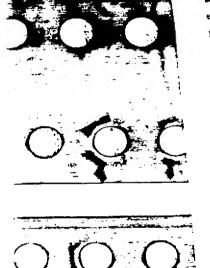
Of source such an army must have food, fuel and ammunition. This west armada, with its modern weapons, would have to bring its food, its ed, its ammunition mutil the country is compared.

It would require:

9,000,000 lbs. of rations and supplies a day 1,500,000 gallons of gasoline a day 150,000 gallons of oil.







What quantities of shot and shell would be required it is difficult to say, but the amount would be staggering. After Hitler's army got here, it would have to keep open behind a line of supply sould have to keep open behind a line of supply from its main supply base capable at keeping a from its main supply base capable and accommendation and accommendation of the supply supply

The problem of transporting this wart army and the problem of transporting this wart army the mountains of equipment and continuous support the power than the property of the power and the would require is utterly beyond the power and and

First, the men must be sent ever in cannot be first, the men must be convoyed. They cannot be these ships must be completely sent arross the cosm in little vessels. Ships of less accompletely sent arross the completely compact at the completely sent accompletely and completely sent accompletely sent

or course to send a million men over at the

time would be out or the military expert of the

The world's same of reliefs are such ones or power could penalty great power or combination of power could penalty great power to the 200,000 men in a smooth. An instill expeditionary force of short \$0,000 would be brought maniform pentical sameler that could be brought against us, if the size of convoy, sweeter the are and planes sameled for protection and the like are and planes sameled for protection and the like are

In the World War we sent two the Col. Lamant France. But we had, according to on this great France, who wrote the official report on this great Ayres, who wrote the official report countries. It is a support to the supervise, the ships of the supervise the ships of the supervise. British, Franch, Italian, side and Franch American. British, Franch, Italian, side of the Samerican were without a fiest. We searous The Germana were without a fiest. We searous The Germana were without a whore they may be sent and so the supervised with open seria. And we sent an and socks to unload the equipment army of suprisers and socks to unload the equipment.

Let us suppose that Germany has decreased.

Let us suppose that Germany has decreased and taken the British navy. Major George land and taken the British navy. Major George land and taken the same to America. Major george land and the pro-was the same land with the pro-was followed by the same land the pro-was followed by the land was supposed to the pro-was followed by the land the land

"Troops cannot be transported overreas as water assumed to the water assumed as when as and command of the water assumed to the pass has been previously uncertainty assured, were which they pass has been previously uncertainty as large, slow and value as troop corroy is a large, slow and value as troop corroy is a large, slow and value as troop corroy is a large, slow and value as troop corroy is a large, slow and value as troops and value as troops are transported or the previous and will sarely suffer heavily if its except be

In the circumstances would not get the property of the party of the grant of the seas. For there have complete command in many. And that many would remain the American new Andrews would have to be wiped out before the party would have to be wiped out on this side of the many many and of this war the American new would calling must be arresembered. First, and of this war the American new would not the forman state and of this war the American new would be larger than the Become, the farking on this saw many and the British new of the occas. It is an arries of an warfare that we would have to do the news worker would not be the saw that the party 100 miles it gots from the control of the saw warfare that we would be a fixed percentage its swe has news every 100 miles it gots from the control of the same and the office of the same and the same has never to be a party to the party

A STATE OF THE PARTY OF THE PAR

Three thousand miles away from their own ranthis nevy would be utterly helpless against a nery would be three times its strength in effective fighting would be three times its strength in effective fighting power. There is not a nevel authority at strengt a power. There is not a nevel authority at strengt a that the German government would our navalman nevel battle in our waters against our naval-

He fioldills of 80 or 40 ships with services and the following property of warrantees of warrantees and their sequipment attack that land here, it could not small their sequipment attack that here, it could not small the service dark night. Fine scott not small their sequipment days in attack, which are small should not small the sound not are to come trade on the following with the sequipment of the sequ

for Eliot canamies, accompanied as modern armies more "Large armies, accompanied as modern armies of moniies by artillery of various Calibres, seaks and other heavy sepilences, as well as van quantities of monitions and supplies, monot smally be landed on an agent barbot with the more part picts, crance, as spen beach; but must fart obtain picts, crance, as spen secure harbot with the more party picts, crance, as secure harbot with the more party picts.

spen board; with the section shore than secure before its string shore than sector consortes for setting shore than force must shore consorted for this country by ships. Mr. he transported to this country by ships.

Today planes must be transported by sea to the Today planes must be transported by sea to the Western Hemisphere; the air armies of Europe and Aris are not yet able to beidge the Adesthe and Aris are not yet able to power. Isolated planes can be in under their own power.

Asia are not yet own power.

Pacific under their own power,

Pacific under mass bombing formations.

There are planes that have flown across the

There are planes that have flown across the

Atlantic, but they must find a friendly landing here.

Atlantic, but they must find a friendly landing here

Atlantic, but they must find a friendly landing here

They cannot come here as houstle craft and

bere and

welcomed on hospitable landing fields. It is

welcomed on hospitable landing fields. here and

possible to build bombers that could come military

possible to build bombers that could have no military

and a few bombs but this would have no military

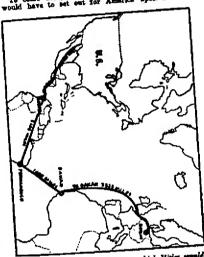
For every man transported here there on the property of the pr

5

By the time a million men were successfully as the stracking of the strack

Hanson Baldwin, in Harper's Magazine for August, 1940, said referring to an invasion of this hemisphere: "The problem seems impossible; not even firthin to a combination of Britain and Germany has amiliciant shipping to divert such as excesses amount of it from their erdinary as common to their sections of the seems amount of its from their erdinary and vital trade resters to military purposes. We do not, therefore, have to fear the employment of neas armies in this hemisphere; the most we have to guard against in the possible transportation of a small expeditionary force."

To come here, after defeating England, Hitler would have to set out for America upon a rest



This shows the imments distances to have to travel with his great a near to attach the United States America. which Histor would gray of a million ; by way of South

military adventure, using up all the military resources he has. He would serve behind him on resources the has. He would serve behind him on all 200,000,000 sullen people in fluores who, we and 200,000,000 sullen people in fluores who, we may be serve, would be watching the moment to make him trouble. That moment would open when he what compelled to strip himself in fluorest that he would be sure to less. Dictates earned that he would be sure to less. They must win.

The President said in his last Message to Congress, January 6, 1941, "Even if there were no British pary it is not probable any enemy would be studied enough to attack its by landing troops in the United States from across thousands of sales

of ocean, until it had sequired strategic bases from which to operate."

which to operata."

Here is a complete administrative by the man who has done more than anyone size to frighten the American people with the fear of invasion that admert invasion is not possible. Yet hardly were these words cold on the President's Hys when these words cold on the President's Hys when the president of the Hills when the president of the Hills have were aliminated to and said if the British asy were aliminated to cross the Atlantic by Hiller would be a comparatively easy matter.

The President mayes his point by inelating that Hitler would first have to acquire bases in this hessisphers. Now just look at this with a little hessisphers. Now just look at this with a little hessisphers. Now first look at this with a little hessisphers armse. Hitler will not come across thousands of miles of cosan to invade us directly and a of the great distance he would have to hessisphers and squipment. those there have would have to be made clearer to the United States would have to be made clearer to the United States would have to be made clearer to the United States when is Cermany. Otherwise there would be no sense in bases.

The bases in this benisphere which would answer this description from which Hitler could attack us are Brazil, various points in the West Indies, Bermuda, Newfoundland, Greenland and similar points.

Brazil is the favorite South American base to which the President is find of referring. This is because Hiller can take over West Africa and consentrate his forces at Dakar there.

Africa bulges out on its west coast toward South
America and South America belges out toward
Africa in Brasil. Delar in Africa is only 1,500
Africa in Brasil. Delar in Africa is only 1,500
Africa in Brasil. Black in Africa is only 1,500
africa in Brasil. Black in Hitler will be
able to cross over the Atlantic at this narrow
able to cross over the Atlantic at this narrow
artest to Brasil and, as Senator Glande Pepper
stretch to Brasil and, as Senator Glande Pepper
into Colombas described it, roll on into Venezuela, into Colombia, up through Central America into Mexico and
on to the Eio Grande.

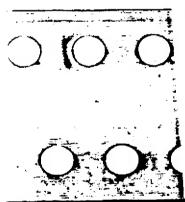
on to the Mio Grande.

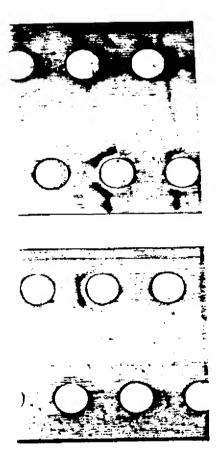
This amazing proposal is no protanges that it hardy calls for an answer. It everlooks the fact that Hitter must take his vast force to Western that Hitter must take his vast force to Western Africa by see—which is 2,000 miles from Garmany Africa by see—which is 2,000 miles for miles across the Atlantic to Brazil. He will have travelled near 5,000 miles. Brazil. He will have travelled near 5,000 miles from the United States. After travelling 2,000 miles to Brazil he would be 5,000 MILES FROM THE UNITED STATES. He would be further away than before he started.

further away than before he started.

He would have to have of course at least a million mean—which would be a ridiculously small member. He would have to heing along all that memore accumulation of trucks, and trailers and metorrycles and tanks and guns and emplies. He would have to conquest Bruil, Venezuels and Colomwoold have to conquest Bruil, Venezuels and Colombia. He would have to move his men up through the neartwee Lethmus of Penams and on through the memorationus regions, the swamps, the trackless megutationus regions, the swamps, the trackless and Headuras, dragring along his theosand-mis said Headuras, dragring along his theosand-mis supplies into Merice and up ever the wide plateau, the pathless jungles, over the mountain gorges and the fever-infected planes of Merico—his million men.







his \$5,000 tracks, his \$0,000 trailers, his 10,000 tanks and incredible supplies of food, feel, oil and ammunition—conquering all these countries as he goes and leaving behind great numbers of troops to held them in subjection until he same at last to the Taxas herder—after a journey of nearly 10,000 miles over hind and oceans. And he would still not be in the United States.

This, of course, is a bestime story to frighten children and is based upon the assumption that American citizens are morrors and will believe anything. Yet this is the basis of the argument that "we are next on Hitler's list."

"we are next on Mither's Hat."

Others tall us he will go to Gressland, Greenland is a vast tract of artic wilderness, its coasta rismed by immense mountains, its interior covered with ice in places a thousand feet deep. Military and aviation experts know it is impossible to helld these bases there to accommodate either navel or airplane units large snoosy for attack here. Even if it were possible Hitler could not do this unless be had cosmand of the seas. And if he had command of the seas he wouldn't go to Greenland.

There are, however, other bases from which attacks might be saunched. The map (Map 4)



This map about the various bases from tableh an anomy might assumes to attach the United States. All those balonging to Britain, Holland, France are spitible a few days of our austra, some in our maters. They could be taken without from a those or losing a life of England worse defeated. Germany would show have to take thom from an unbich would be at difficult at Landing in the United States.

will show these. You will see very quickly how little we have to fear on this score.

-- 1

These bases are Newfoundland, Bermuda, the West Indies or any British or Dutch or French possessions in the general neighborhood of the Northern coast of South America.

Northern coast of South America.

Germany, it is feared, might, with the British feart, capture these bases, if Hiller defeated England. If England were to be defeated the American fleat could seize any one of these bases within two days, three at the most. American warships kept within a day or two run from these places—mostly wishands—could almost the very day that England fell take possession of these places without firing a shot, spending a dollar or losing a man. There is no need of going into a war—parhaps a ten-year war—to keep the Germans out of bases which we could supture in a few days and at no cost if Britain is defeated.

Britain is defeated.

As for Newfoundland, there we would pursue the policy we would adopt for all of Canada and the country to the North of we in this bemisphers. We would amounce that we would resist with force any stack upon that country. It would take Germany years to prepare for such an expedition and when prepared, even if she were stupid enough to attempt if, the same arguments which reveal the folly and impossibility of a frontal attack on the United States. apply to Canada backed by the United States.

Whe then do same talk about Hitler country.

United States.

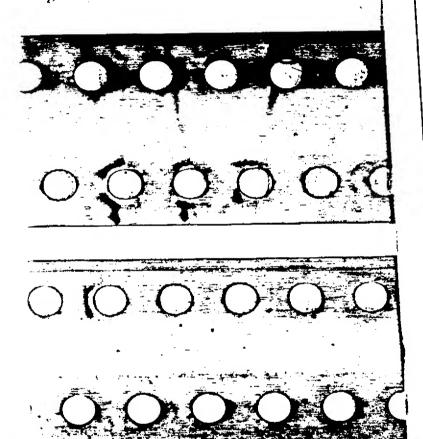
Why, then, do men talk about Hitler coming hers? Because this is the corneratons of the propaganda to get us into the war. Propagandate have pointed out that to get America in the war. "Americans must be frightened by sums threat." And this threat has been manufactured by Ritish and American interventionist propagandists and industriously circulated by them to get us into this war.

Americans are willing to aid Britain because they hate fasciam, they are against Hitler, they look upon the English government, despite its aristocratic character, and its empire, as a more civilized form of government than Hitler's dictatorship. They are willing to help through a generous sympathy and not because they think this is our war.

Any airplane attempting to bomb us from Europe or from the Azores would have to face the cartain fate of being destroyed. There is not in existence any fleet of planes that could menace us from Europe or from any bease such as Greenland or the Azores. And of course everyone knows by now that you do not conquer a sountry like America metraly by dropping bombs on it. It must be eccupied. We are not vulnerable as Britain is, which depends for the vury fond she eats as well as for among terrything else, on abjussants from shreed. She can be blockeded. We mannet.

alread. She can be blockeded. We minnet.

All this does not mean that our country is not
membed by dangers. The most serious dangers
are interior. It does not mean that we must
wearmed. It means that we must provide this
country with whatever defenses are constituted to
make an invasion by any force, however great,
impossible. And that is usefly possible to us,
impossible. And that is usefly possible to us,
impossible to us its to create inside of meany
years an aggressive force capable of invading
Europe or Asia and carrying on an aggressive war
there. And few Americans want to do that.



AMERICA FIRST COMMITTEE

National Committee
GENERAL ROBERT E. WOOD, Acting Chairman
B. DOUGLAS STUART, Ja., Director
3, SANFORD OTH, Tracinor

CHESTE BOWLES

DL. A. J. CARLSON

WILLIAM B. CASTLE

MEA. BEDINETT CHAMP CLARK

JEVEN S. CORE

JUNEY AYER FARBANK

JOHN T. FLYNN
BRINGS WILDUR E. HAMMAKER
GEN. THOMAS HAMMAKER

JAY C. HORMEL
GEN. HUGH S. JOHNSON
CLAY JUSSON
KATHEYN LEWIS
AUCE BOORFVELY LONGWORTH
PRANK O. LOWDEN
HANGORD MACNIDER
THOMAS N. McCARTER

RAY MCKAIG

STRIEBG MORTON

ANGE R. E. PINCHOT

WILLIAM H. REGNEY

CAPT. BOWARD RICKINGACKER

BOWARD L. RYESSON, JR.

LOUIS J. TAISEE

Mai. BURTON K. WHISELER

Du. GROGGE H. WHIPPLE

MAJOR ALPORD J. WILLIAMS

The greatest service you can render your sountry is to write at once to your Senators, your congressman, the President of the United States and your local newspaper protesting against any further steps to involve the United States in the European war.

Also send in your name as a member of the America First Committee, which is working to save America from this war. National Headquarters, 141 West Jackson Boulevard, Chicago, Ill.

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or Senators,
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wapaper props to involve
ean war.
a member of

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			- R U C - all Field Offi dated 5-11-42.	ices dated 3-16-42	
1	DETAILS:		AT BALTIMORE, N		E TABLE
	A review of the file prior to its discont of engaging in prope considered as subver America First Commit	tinuance which aganda work in rsive by certa ttes.	ormation regard indicates that the City of Ba in elements opp	ing the America F t this organisation altimore, the nature cosed to the gener	n was suspective of which was policy of
PAGE STATES	An advertisement plantance that at that agents and their dur	moment "a ver	y subtle argume t week, on the	ent was being inla	nted by Hazi
+	FORWARDED:	TOTAL CALL	100-4	712 - 385	IN THE
	5 - Bureau (SPECIAL	DELIVERY)	Mrs 20	# 249, 80 ALL INFORMA 1049 REFERN IS U DATE (2/30)	ATION CONTAINED MICHASSIFIED BLUST BETT

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our minds and delay our action." The advertisement also stated that this form of argument was "direct from propaganda headquarters in Berlin." The advertisement attempted to point out that false arguments were being set up by these propagandists in order that their fallacy might be pointed out. This advertisement was signed by the Fight for Freedom Committee, Maryland Branch, and listed the entire Advisory Committee and the Executive Committee; the latter was headed by GEORGE B. SINMONS, Chairman.

On August 5, 1911, The America First Committee, through its Chairman, JOHN A. TWYER, addressed a letter to the Fight for Freedom Committee challenging that organization to expose and to name the individuals who were spreading the propaganda "direct from propaganda headquarters in Berlin." This letter offered the support and the cooperation of the America First Committee in bringting these persons to justice.

On August 9, 1941, the America First Committee addressed another letter to the Fight for Freedom Committee, pointing out that no answer had been received to their initial request for an expose and they were again asked to name the individuals referred to in the advertisement.

On August 11, 19h1, GEORGE B. SDIONS, Executive Chairman, addressed a letter to the America First Committee, stating that it was their belief that a more effective method of dealing with the persons named in the advertisement was to point out the fallacy of such arguments rather than to deal in personalities. They also stated that rather than reveal the names of the persons whom they believed to be the dupes of Nazi agents in Baltimore and so publicize the fact, that it was their duty to turn such information over to the Federal Bureau of Investigation.

On August 13, 1941, the America First Committee sent another letter to Mr. GEORGE B. SELYONS, stating that the thing that interested that organization in the advertisement was the definite statement that Nazi agents twice in the preceding week, over the radio in Baltimore, made an attempt to confuse the minds of the citizens of Maryland and to delay action.

On May 25, 1942, was interviewed by the writer with the purpose of determining any information he might have with regard to the America First Committee and any activities it might be engaged in since its public dissolution.

Committee wherein a minister, whose name he could not remember, had made a strong speech in favor of America staying out of the war and had used arguments which he felt were fallacious. He stated that the method of argument was to set up a false argument and then to knock it down with a more logical argument. He said that he had no proof whatever that any members of the America First Committee were being influenced by Nazi agents or Nazi propagandists, but



that it was his personal feeling that the results obtained from the arguments used by this organization were in keeping with the approved propagands of the Mazi regime. He said this was the only information he had regarding the America First Committee and it was his understanding that the organization was presently dissolved and he knew of no subsequent attempt in Baltimore to keep this organization alive.

A complete review of the files of the Office of Military Intelligence in Baltimore concerning the America First Committee was made by Special Agent materials, which reflected the following information concerning an underground movement of this organisation.

On January 23, 1942, the newspaper PM in New York City published an article entitled "Firsters Neet Here Secretly." This Article reflected that Colonel CHARLES A JAINDBERGH and others had met in New York City for a secret meeting.

On January 20, 1912, a report originating either in the FBI, New York, or UNI, New York, office reflected information similar to that appearing in the news-paper PM.

On January 22, 1922, a report originating in the G-2 office, New York, indicating information from a private source, reflected practically the identical information set out in the H' article.

On January 27, 1942, the War Department in Washington, D. C. received a report from a private source concerning secret meetings of the America First Committee similar to the information appearing in the newspaper PM.

On January 28, 1942, the newspaper writers DREW PEARSON and ROBERT S. ALIEN revealed information concerning secret meetings of the America First Committee similar to that appearing in the newspaper PM.

It was pointed out that this meeting, although supposedly extremely secret in nature, had become known to the office of G-2 from five different sources and the suggestion was made that this fact alone would indicate that a deliberate organized propaganda scheme was being instigated by some source in an attempt to discredit the America First Committee. The records of G-2 reflected no information concerning secret meetings of the America First Committee in Baltimore.

on March 26, 19h2, Special Agent made a review of the correspondence, pamphlets, and newspaper articles contained in the Enoch Pratt Library in Baltimore concerning the subject organization, which reflected the following information:

On April 23, 19hl, the headquarters of the Haryland chapter of the America First Committee was designated as the Emerson Hotel, WALTER WALTER

On April 29, 1941, Senator GERALD PANYE spoke at the Lyric Theatre at a meeting sponsored by the America First Committee.

On May 8, 1941, an article appeared in the Baltimore Sun which reflected that the new headquarters of the Maryland chapter of the America First Committee was to be located at 516 North Charles Street. This article also contains information that JOHN A. GWYER, Treasurer, was strongly opposed to any convoys of ships to England.

On May 28, 1941, an article appearing in the Baltimore Sun reflected that WALTER W. HAMFIL had resigned as Chairman of the America First Committee at Baltimore because of a disagreement with the national officers of the organization. It appeared that HAMFILL was opposed to any military activity by the United States. HAKTILL'S home is

On June 6, 1941, an article appeared in the Baltimore Sun which reflected that PHILIP LATACLETTE, former Governor of Wisconsin, and Mrs. ROBERT A. TAFT addressed 1500 persons at the Lyric Theatre at a meeting sponsored by the Baltimore chapter of the America First Committee.

On December 8, 1941, an article appeared in the Baltimore Sun reflecting that JOHN A GWYER, President of the Maryland branch of the America First Committee, had publically stated that the subject organization in Maryland had suspended action and would probably dissolve.

On May 25, 1942 was interviewed regarding any information which might have come to his attention reflecting subsequent activity on the part of the America First Committee. Stated that he had joined the America First Committee at its very inception in Baltimore, and had worked with its organizer in an attempt to make this a successful organization. He stated that his reason for joining the America First Committee was to bring together as a unified front persons who were conscientiously opposed to the United States entering the European war. He said that at that time he was a conscientious objector and registered as such under the Selective Training and Service Act.

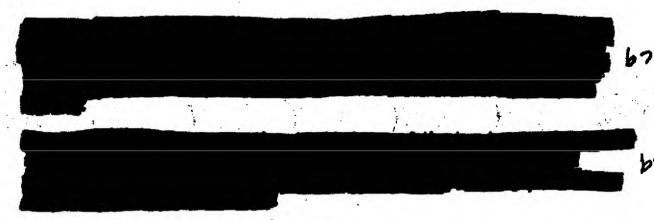
into the war on December 7, 1941, he had been thoroughly convinced in his own mind that he was entirely right in being a conscientious objector. However, upon the entry of the United States into the war, he felt that it was the duty of every ditzen to do all that he could to protect the United States and for this reason has withdrawn his conscientious objection to the draft, and has been given a III-A classification due to the fact that he supports his grandfather and grandmother.



said that his activity in the America First Committee had been strenuous at the beginning, but that he had resigned from the organization because of the growing attitude of anti-Semitism on the part of some of the leading individuals in the America First Committee. Since that time he has had absolutely no contact with the America First Committee and although he expressed a desire to be of any service possible in giving information on the present status, he said that he had no such information.

It was pointed out that there was a possibility of subversive elements using the America First Committee in such a manner as to further the propaganda plans of the Nazi regime should they gain control of it. In view of this possibility, was asked who he felt would be inclined to continue as a member of the organization although it had been publically disbanded. Said that while he had no indication that such was the case, he felt that if such a thing did exist the persons who would still be members were those whose ideas were most radical and most deep seated, whom, he felt, would not change their views simply because the United States had entered the war.

He stated that was a firm believer in the teachings of COUGHLIN and had entered the America First Committee with his following as a Coughlinite. He said that was the key person in Baltimore of this following.



Further information concerning is set out in the forthcoming report of Special Agent at Baltimore, Maryland, in the case entitled, FEKLY FOREIGN LETTER, REGISTRATION ACT, a case with New York origin, Baltimore file number 97-22. This report reflects that

stated that he had been active in the America First Committee and while he was not questioned regarding any present activity of the America First Committee, he indicated that as far as he knew the organization was completely disbanded.

Inasmuch as investigation has failed to indicate any activity on the part of the America First Committee as an underground movement or as a dormant organization, this case is being closed, in the Baltimore Field Division.

REFERRED UPON COMPLETION TO THE OFFICE OF ORIGIN

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

			FILE NO.	100-919
HOUSTON, TEXAS	5/26/42	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE 4/13,29,30;	REPORT MADE BY	P.
TITLE O			CHARACTER OF CASE	
AMERICA FIRST COM	CITTEE	_	INTERNAL SEC	CURITY (G)
SYNOPSIS OF FACTS:	Attempt made to	organise Houst	ton Chapter of	C.
	America First C		29/41, at Ben . i Reverend R. T.	
m T	SWALL.		One meeting held	b'
•			ifter which time records returned	
	to General ROBE	RT E. WOOD, Act	ting Chairman of	
	America First C tion of undergr	committee, at Ci cound organisati	nicago. No indica- lon inimical to	•
	the U.S. in Hou		A Property of	
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REFERENCE: Bureau 1	etter 3/16/42.		A: 10-18-90	SPRBT
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DETAILS: AT HOUST	ON, TELAS			مي
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100-919 AMERICA FIRST COMMITTEE

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MOUSTON 5/26/42

engaged in preaching in Houston, but that he was publishing a small newspaper the vicinity of his home located at the secured Houston. At that time secured copies of literature which was distributed at the meeting and the literature obtained is being retained in the files of the Houston Field Divis

noted that information furnished him was to the effect the

and that toward that end a meeting had been held at the Ben Milam Hotel on t evening of Angust 29. 1941. Informed that the Houston chapter was come of the records of the organization had all been returned to Gen ROBERT WOOD, in Chicago, Illinois. In that the activities of the Houston to the one of August 29, 1941, and that the activities of the Houstonpter did not actually reach any proportions prior to December 7, 1941. A December 7, 1941, the organization was completely disbanded on the instruction General ROBERT WOOD of Chicago.

indicate that any of the individuals who comprised the Houston chapter of the Committee, were in the past or in the present engaged in any activity immics to this country.

100-919 AMERICA FIRST COMMITTEE

with the America First Committee.

and took a great interest in attempting to organise the Houston chapter of th America First Committee, but that immediately after Pearl Harbor Reverend SMA beliefs were entirely in accord with President ROOSEVELT's policies.

informed that the Houston chapter of the Committee was organized in August, 1941, and that their beliefs were of such a nature that the believed that the United States could refrain from entering the conflict at h

stated that the chapter in Houston was disbanded on December 8, 1941, upon the instructions of General WOOD, of Chicago, who requested that all files and rewhich were maintained in Houston be returned to the headquarters, at Chicago had retaken into the organization were entirely loyal to the country and the admintion's policy concerning the war effort, and that to his knowledge no activity

a subversive nature was being carried on by any individual who had any conne

In view of the fact that no information was developed indicating the America First Committee was being conducted by any subversive group in the Hares, this case is being considered referred upon completion to the office of origin. However, advise the writer, or the Houston Office of any subversive activities coming to their attention, and significant and the future, this case will be re-opened for purpose of recording such data.

PRIMERRY TIPON COMPLETION TO OFFICE OF ORIGIN

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LOS ANGELES	5/27/42	5/23/42			
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14	The women shou	ld reorgani	ze, secretly i	i necessary."	V
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entrance into the war and would probably be invited to participate in any movement either open or secret of the America First Committee. However, since the United States entered the war there has been no activity on the part of the America First Committee. Many of the active members of the America First Committee participated in the activities of such organization as the Friends of Progress under the direction of ROBERT NOBLE,

under the direction of A. E. VINDHAUST,

Both of these groups operated for sometime after the war and advocated the same policies which were advocated by the America First Committee prior to the war. It is not known whether or not these groups were sponsored by the America First Committee. However, the leaders of these groups were dropped from the Speakers Bureau of the America First Committee sometime before the United States entered the war because of their extreme views.

The leaders of the America First Committee in Los Angeles during its active life were JOHN WHEELER, son of Senator EURTON K. THEELER, FRANK BATRY, local attorney, and JOSEPH SCOTT, prominent Catholic layman and attorney. Since the advent of the United States into this war, these three men have taken no part in any organization which has opposed the war effort and there has been no open activity on their part which would indicate that the America First Committee is active in any way. However, FRANK BARRY intends to run for Congress at the next election and he feels that the policies of the America First Committee may then be brought to light again and placed before the people and under the standards of political talk, they will be accepted.

The secondary leaders of the America First in this district are advised that none of these men has carried on the work of the America First Committee as the leader of an organization either open or secret. Lattended many meetings of the Friends of Progress and The World Events Forum but had no part in directing the organization. has not organized any new group nor has he spoken at any of the meetings of isolationist groups.

has not been very active since the United

States entry into the war.

members of the America First Committee are more intent on carrying on the work of America First than the men. At the present time, the only thing that is holding them back is the absence of leadership.

group of women advocating the policies of America First, is the most active of these women. These women are following the national leadership of

HAASE who was formerly very active in the America First Committee in New York. He now cets out a news letter under the sponsorship of an organization known as America for Peace. Some of the women in Los Angeles, including Mrs. OME receive this letter. advised that FREDERICK J. LITHY of Philadelphia was known as a matifist and former active "America Firster" and the person who sponsored LAURA INCALLS first peace movement which consisted in drooping leaflets over Washington, D.C. when the Germans first moved into Poland. He has been making a tour of the country and came to Los Angeles between May 10, 1942 and May 16, 19h2 and spoke at a meeting sponsored by the University School At this meeting LIBBY stated that "the of Religion. This meeting was arranged by United States should sue for immediate peace to avoid a slaughter", and Alf Russia wins, all Europe and the United States will go Communist", and also, we must choose between two evils, Nazism and Communism and Nazism is the lesser evil." "Only the Nazis stand between us and a Russian victory." The America First Committee should never have stopped. The Women should reorganize, secretly if necessary."

UNDEVELOPED LEADS:

THE PHILADELPHIA FIELD DIVISION

At Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, will determin whether FREDERICK J. LIBBY is attempting to reorganize the America First group; will determine whether he is presently making a speaking tour and obtain his itinerary if possible.

THE LOS ANGELES FILLD DIVISION

At Los Angeles, California, will recontact for any information relative to the reorganization of the America First Committee.

Will contact

for any information he may have as to what the first committee, or its leaders.

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

FILE NO. 100-515 Form No. 1 SIOUX FAILS, SOUTH DAKOTA THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT DATE WHEN MADE PERIOD FOR 5/25/42 5/27/42 Sioux Falls, S. Dak. CHARACTER OF CASE AMERICA FIRST COMMITTEE INTERNAL SECURITY - G. IN THE SIOUX FALLS FIELD DIVISION. Investigation discloses America First Committee SYNOPSIS OF FACTS: had chapters in Grand Forks, N. Dak. and Sioux Falls, Lennox and Parkston, S. Dak. No information that America First Committee is operating underground. Bureau teletype dated May 11, 1 REFERENCE: AT BISKARCK, NORTH DAKOTA. DETAILS: In a memorandum dated August 31, 1941, Special Agent advised that the German language newspaper DER STATTS-ANZIGER, published in Rismarck, North Dakota, was soliciting members for the America First Committee Subsequent inquiry by agents of this field division in Bismarck and Minot, North Dakota, failed to disclose that the America First Committee was in operation during 1941, and the contacting of informants failed to disclose that the America First Committee is operating underground at the present time in either of these two cities. AT GRAND FORKS, NORTH DAKOTA. In a memorandum dated May 2, 1942, Special Agent advised that he had contacted RECORDIN 5 - Bureau 1 - Chicago (Information) b7c 1 - Des Moines (Information) 1 - St. Paul (Information) Bioux Falls [

one in that city; that Grand Forks was the only active chapter in the State of North Dakota, and that the chapter had not been engaged in activities until June, 1941, at which time CIARK and NIE spoke in Grand Forks. Further advised that the closest clubs were in Winona and Minneapolis, Minnesota, and that due to that fact many of the members in North Dakota were enrolled in the Minnesota clubs.

Further stated that to the best of his knowledge there never were any America First Committees in Fargo, Rismarck, Minot, Jamestown or any other city in North Dakota, and that the Grand Forks chapter had been disbanded on December 18, 1941 in accordance with a letter sent out by the National President, R. E. WOOD,

chapter at the time of its dissolution were FRED E. BYE, Chairman, Gilby, North Dakota; D. C. MacDONAID, Grand Forks, Secretary; FRED LOCAIS, Grand Forks: HORACE MEESTER, Northwood, North Dakota; C. E. WAISTER, Larimore, North Dakota.

Stated that he holds a list of all the contributors to the America First in North Dakota and Northern Minnesota at the day of their disbandment, and that such information would always be available to the Bureau.

A discreet inquiry on the part of other agents in Grand Forks and other cities and towns throughout North Dakota failed to disclose that there were any America First Committees operating in that State and no information was obtained as to any present activity.

AT SIOUX FALLS, SOUTH DAKOTA.

Chicago.

She advised that the America First group was first organized in Sioux Falin January, 1941, and continued until its dissolution with the outbreak of the was She advised that the total membership list of this chapter was approximately 1500 which consisted of about 300 from the State of Iowa and 200 from an adjoining are in Minnesota; that about 650 were from the City of Sioux Falls itself, and the remainder in the adjoining territory in Southeastern South Dakota. She advised that all of the records and membership list of the Sioux Falls America First Committee had been immediately forwarded to the National Headquarters in Illinois in January, 1942 upon specific request by the National President. She advised that BIAINE SIMONS was Chairman of the group. MRS. MUNDT was Secretary and MRS. GEORG (GIADYS) IAWRENCE was Treasurer.

She advised that to the best of her knowledge there were only two other America First Committees operating in 1911 in South Dakota, one at Lennox, South Dakota, of which J. E. PLUNCKER was Chairman, and another one at Parkston, South Dakota, whose Chairman she could not remember.

It was ascertained in a very confidential manner that HIAINE SIMONS, former Attorney in Sioux Falls, is now a Second Lieutenant in the United States Army at Fort Riley, Kansas, and that he wrote a letter on December 8, 1941 to a friend stating that he had been contacted by a Sioux Falls newspaper for a



statement on behalf of the America First Committee, and that he advised the newspaper that the activities had been suspended. He stated, however, that "it would be wise for groups to function in the interests of economy and for proper prosecution of the war". It was likewise ascertained in a very confidential manner that SIMONS had been endeavoring to establish America First chapters in Aberdeen and Watertown, South Dakota during 1941.

Discreet inquiries made by agents of this office in the diffetowns and cities of South Dakota failed to disclose that the America First Commit had established chapters anywhere, and there was no indication that the America First is operating underground.

_ PRUBTUG_

UNDEVELOPED LEADS

The attention of all agents conducting inquiry in this matter is directed to the Director's letter dated March 16, 1942 to all SACs, and specifically to the part which states that all approaches to persons who were formerly connected with the America First Committee should be very discreet and should only be made after it has recently been ascertained that they are not a part of the underground organization now functioning.

AT BISMARCK, NORTH DAKOTA, will by discreet investigation and the use of informants ascertain if the newspaper DER STATTS-ANZIGER is presently connected with the America First Committee in any underground activities.

AT GRAND FORKS, NORTH DAKOTA, will by discreet inquiries and the use of informants ascertain if the America First Committee is now operating.

AT PARKSTON, SOUTH DAKOTA, will in the same manner endeavor to ascertain the same information.

AT LENNOX, SOUTH DAKOTA, will in the same manner endeavor to ascertain the same information.

should not be contacted unless

AT ABERDEEN, SOUTH DAKOTA, will by discreet inquiries and the use of informants ascertain if a chapter was organized in 1941; if so, the extent of its activities and whether or not there is any present underground organization.

AT WATERTOWN, SOUTH DAKOTA, will obtain the same information

AT SIGUX FALIS, SOUTH DAKOTA, will endeavor by the use of informants to ascertain any present subversive activities on the part of the Ame. First Committee.

- PENDING -

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

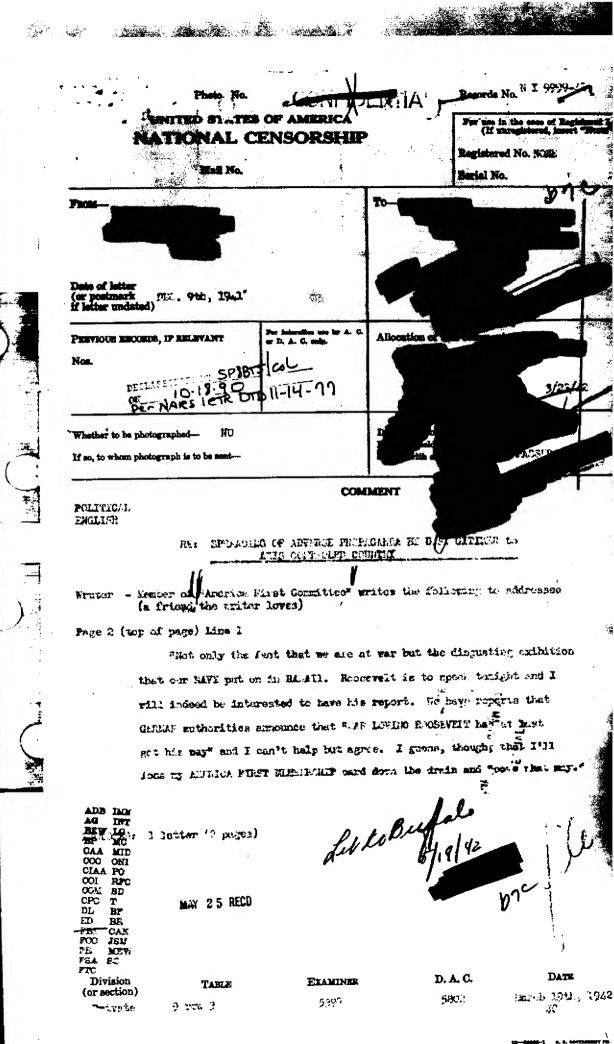
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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION FOIPA DELETED PAGE INFORMATION SHEET

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May 19, 1942 Special Agent in Charge Buffalo, New York AMERICA FIRST COMMITTEE RE: INTERNAL SECURITY (G) Dear Sire The Bureau is in receipt of a submission slip from the National Consorship dealing with a letter dated December 9, 1941, from ! The following quotation was excerpted from the above Cation "Not only the fact that we are at war but the disgusting exhibition that our NAVY put on in RAWAII. Roosevelt is to speak tonight and I will indeed be interested to have his report. We have reports that GIRMAN authorities announce that TWAR LOVING ROOSEVELT has at last got his way! and I can't help but agree. I guess, though, that I'll lose my AMERICA FIRST WEIGHRESHIP card down the drain and teome what may. 18 No specific investigation is requested and the material submitted above is for your information in the investigation of instant case. Yery truly yours, HEPT OF JUSTIC, Mr. Tolson_ Mr. E. A. Tamm_ John Edgar Heover 1 800 Mr. Clegg_ Director Mr. Glavin_ Mr. Ladd Mr. Nichols_ LCOMMUNICATIONS SECTION 1 1 1 1 1 2 3 3 3 3 1 1 Mr. Rosen_ Mr. Tracy___ **☆MAILED** Mr. Carson_ Mr. Coffey__ Ch. Wd In 9 Mr. Hendon . Mr. Kramer_ FEDERAL RUREAU OF INVESTIGATION Mr. McGuire__ - U. S. DEPARTMENT OF MUSTICE Mr. Quinn Tamm Miss Gandy



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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

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The MILMAURER JOURNAL, in an article dated January 12, 1941, carried an announcement by LARSING HOTT, Chairman of the MURICA FIRST CONCITTEE, that erganization of the Committee in Milwankee and the State of Misconsin was under very; that offices had been opened at 808 Mast Visconsin Avanue; that MAX V. BARB, industrialist; LOUIS GRARLES, Milwankee attorney; CHRETER O. MANVIG, industrialist; WILLIAM H. MARSHALL, investment firm official; MLLIOTT M. OCHER, real estate man; and MRS. EDVIN H. OCHMAN, daughter of Senater BURTON K. WHEELER, had accepted appointments to the group as an advisory committee. This article also announced a membership drive and encouraged individuals to communicate with the local office for excellment, also stating that 800 names were received the first day; that it was contemplated a membership committee of 100 would be named and they aimed at 50,000 enrolless in Milwankee; that they planned a really at the Milwankee Anditorium seem.

The Wampen, Visconsin local newspaper, in an article in James, 1941, reflected that application had been made for a local charter of the AMERICA FIRST CONSTITUTE at Mampen, Visconsin, a meeting having been arranged by J. J. THEPLE, President of the Seeple Shoe Company, and that emong these who signed the application, in addition to TEMPLE, were JUDSON MIXTERS, J. J. MUGENT, HAROLD MLOW, And R. J. WARLING.

In this respect, it should be noted that the writer, while conducting investigation in a embotage case in the vicinity of Suspen, was advised by that TRPLE of the Teeple Shoe Company had been leader of the AMERICA FIRST CONCUTTER prior to the United States' entry into the war, but that there had been no activity of this committee after the declaration of war.

An article in the Milwankee Sentinel of April 16, 1941, advised that former Governor PHILIP LAFOLLETE would interview Senator BURTON K, WHEELER at the Milwankee Anditorium at a meeting held under the amspices of the AMERICA FIRST COMMITTEE, headed by LAKSING BOTT, and that tickets for the address by COLONEL LIMBERG at Chicago would be obtainable at the Local MCERICA FIRST COMMITTEE Office in Milwankee.

On April 21, 1941 The MILYAUREE SENTIME reflected that a University Chapter had been fermed in Milwaukee, with members from Marquette University and the University of Visconsin Extension Division, and the Milwaukee State Teachers College; and also that Senstor MURTON K, WHEELER would speak before the Milwaukee State Teachers College group in the near fature.

The files also reflect that one reported to this effice that he had attacked a messing at the Schreeder Motel on May 20, 1941, where WILLIAM E. TAKE precised and passed out AMERICA FIRST CONNITTEE literature; that TAKE previously had conducted

the Community Forum at Jefferson Hall in Hilwankee, Wisconsin. TAAY claims the support of many elerches in this area; manely: Mrangelical, Christian Scientists, 7th Day Adventists, Catholic pricets at Whitefish Bay, and others.

Periests that he attended the meeting February 5, 1941 at 3451 South St. Mair Street, where PETER DAVIS of Chapter of the AMERICA FIRST COMMITTER; that OSCAR BENG and MERSTER MODIMARS 67 speke.

In the case entitled "AMERICAN PHACE MOBILISATION - INTERNAL RECURITY,"
in which New York is the effice of erigin, the report of Special Agent
acted 11/10/41, reflects that
estated that at the American Peace Medilization Resignarters he has seen approached
by the AMERICA FIRST CONSISTED to form on A.F.C. Committee in West Allie but
had turned down the proposition becomes of the financial set-up.

The MILVAUEER JOURNAL of Movember 1, 1940 carried an ad for membership combined with an enti-wer article issued by the ANDRICA FIRST CONSISTER, listing in this ad the national committeemen, and requesting that applications should be mailed to the United States Board of Trade Building, Chicago, Illinois,

On August 4, 1941 the MILVAUKER JOURNAL carried an article advising that sub-shapters of the AVERICA FIRST COMMITTER were to be formed in each ward in Milvankee, and that Professor C. L. SCAMLOF of Marguette University would address the 18th Ward Sub-Chapter at Century Hall, 3430 North Ferwell Avenue, subject of the discussion being the possibility of Masi attack through South America.

The MILVAUXEE JOURNAL of Angust 14, 1942 reflects that a 9th Word Chapter of the AMERICA FIRST COMMITTEE had been formed at Smith Park Pavilien, LESTER V. MEESLIN being elected chairman of the chapter.

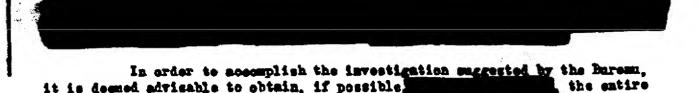
On December 8, 1941 the JOURTAL carried an article stating that LESTER J. BRADSHAY was one of the AMERICA FIRST COMMITTEE'S most active speakers.

The MILVAULEE JOUREAL of December 12, 1941 carried as announcement by LAMSING MOTT that all chapters in the State of Visconsin would be dissolved,

The above information is set forth inamuch as information concerning the organisational structure of the AMERICA FIRST COMMITTEE is not available to this office at the present time. 670

advised that he first became sognisant of the AMERICA FIRST COMMITTEE through contacts and literature received from Estimal Headquarters at Chicago, principally from General MOBERT R. WOOD, Acting Chairman, whom he knows and respects. He stated that subsequently LANSING BOYF, Chairman of the Milwankee County Republican Party, was appointed chairman of the Wisconsin Committee by the Mational Committee; that he has known MOYT for a considerable length of time. MOYF has been active in pelities in Milwankee for a number does not question MOTT'S sincerity and his assesof years; however, he tation with the AMERICAN FIRST COMMITTEE, believing him to be a good American citizen, and he knows positively that since the dissolution of the AMERICA FIRST CONCLITEE, HOYT has taken absolutely no action in connection with the AMERICA FIRST COMMITTEE in may manner whatsoever. Ho through his contacts with BOYT and other members of the AMERICA FIRST COMMITTED localy, would probably have knowledge of any underground activities on the part of this Committee.

er financial setup of the MCRICA FIRST CONCITTE, other than he has frequently heard HOTT state that of membership thes collected, a certain percentage was transmitted to the Matienal Committee in Chicago and a certain amount was maintained here in Milwankee for organizational expenses, which were being carried on threadout the state.



100-2936

ergenizational set-up of MERICA FIRST COMMITTEE in the State of Visconsin, location of its shapters, the various chairmen of these chapters, and individuals identified with the activity in each shapter, in order that a sareful selection may be made throughout the state of reliable individuals who could be trusted to furnish the Bureau information concerning any subsequent activity in the organization of the AMERICA FIRST COMMITTEE.

A review of local newspaper morgans and files in this office reflect no information cancerning any activity on the part of the AMERICA FIRST COMMITTEE since its dissolution in Documber of 1941.

_ 'D W W N T W A _

UNDEVELOPED LEADS

THE MILWAUKER OFFICE

AT MILVAUKER. MISCOUSIE

Will contact

of the various chapters in the State of Misconsin may be determined, the identity of the chairmen of these chapters may be learned, as well as active committeemen in these various chapters. Upon learning the identity of these individuals, will conduct appropriate investigation to select therefrom a sufficient number of reliable individuals of unquestioned American background to act as informants relative to the possible use of the AMERICA FIRST CONSTRUCT organization, along the lines suggested by the Bureau in this investigation.

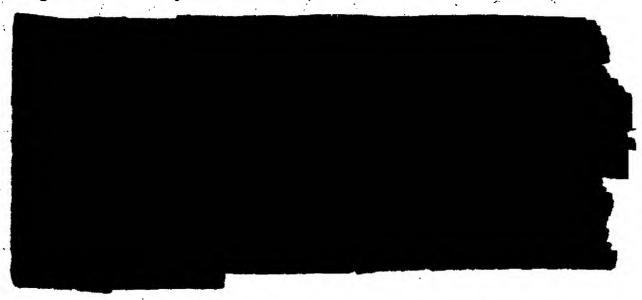
C.E.B.

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT CHICAGO, ILLINOIS S.A. FILE NO. 100-1254 DATE WHEN MADE REPORT MADE AT PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE REPORT MADE BY SAN ANTONIO, TEXAS 5-28-42 \$24,25,26,27-42 CHARACTER OF CAME CAMERICA FIRST COMMITTEE di INTERNAL SECURITY - G. WIT TEACEASTION CONTAIN NOPSIS OF FACTS: Investigation reflects no activity of ETT WHENE SHOWN SPRESICIL America First Committee in San Antoniparvise. Cooleantly car GADR - RUC-REFERENCE: Bureau letter dated 3-16-42. Bureau teletype dated 5-11-42. Bureau teletype dated 5-26-42. DETAILS: AT SAN ANTONIO, TEXAS. This investigation is predicated upon receipt of Bureau letter dated March 16, 1942, requesting a report on the present activity of the America First Committee in this area. whose identity is known to the Bureau, made known his files and stated that his confidential informants reports reflect no activity of the AMERICA FIRST COMMITTEE organization in the San Antonio area recently and that so far there have been no attempts to revive the meetings of this organization in this area. advise the San Antonio field division of any new developments that may come to his attention. whose identities are known to COPIES DESTROYED the Bureau, report that they have heard of no attempt to revive the AMERICA FIRST COMMITTEE organization in San Antonio and that they will inform the San Antonio field division of any activity of this organization that comes to their attention. They advised that they had previously reported one RECORI INTERI MAY 30-942

COMMENTIAL

AMERICA FIRST COMMITTEE organization. They stated that they knew these two persons personally and would contact them to find out if they were in possession of information relating to any activity of the AMERICA FIRST COMMITTEE in the San Antonio area.

his records reflect no activity of the AMERICA FIRST COMMITTEE in the San Antonio area and stated that to his knowledge this organization locally has been dead and inactive for quite some time. He stated that he would immediately inform the San Antonio field division if any new activity or attempts to revive this organization locally is made.



- REFERRED UPON COMPLETION TO THE OFFICE OF ORIGIN -

COMPAGNIFICE

CONFIDENTIAL

-2-

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

This Case Originated At CHICAGO, ILLINOIS

File No. 100-2263

Report Made At CHARLOTTE, N.C. Date Made 5-27-42

Period ' 4-11,25; Report Made By

5-13,15,18,

20-42

Title:

Character of Case:

AMERICA FIRST COMMITTEE

INTERNAL SECURITY - G

Synopsis:

America First Committee never active in Charlotte

Field Division.

Pinehurst, North Carolina, believes that

New York City, was formerly active in America First Committee and is presently active in the Constitutional Educational League

which she considers a reformed America First Committee.

RUC

REFERENCE:

Bureau letter dated March 16, 1942- TATE 10-18 90 BY SPSBIDIC

A review of the files of the Charlotte Field Division failed DETAILS: to reveal any information indicating that the America First Committee was ever active in this Division. This review failed

to reveal the name of a single individual who was a known former member of the Imerica First Committee.

Subsequent to the receipt of the letter of reference the following were discreetly interviewed by Agents of the Charlotte Office To the purpose of determining whether they had received any information in the past relative to the America First Committee being active in their communities:

Special Agent

Copies

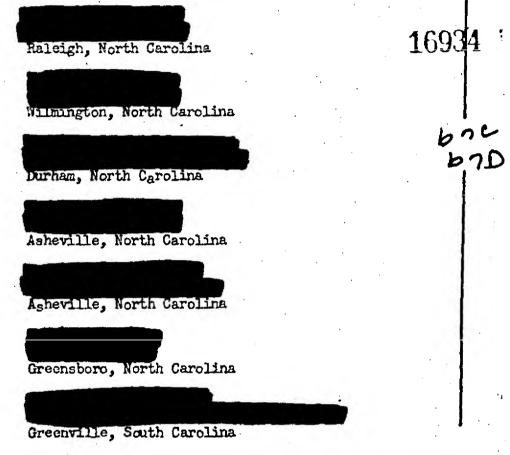
5 Bureau

2 New Haven

2 Milwaukee

2 New York

2 Chicago 2 Charloite MAY129 -942



The above mentioned contacts were made without developing any information concerning the America First Committee.

The following investigation was conducted by Special Agent on May 13, 1942:

Pinchurst, North Carolina, advised
New York City, on or about
December 3, 1941, sent a number of pamphlets to her mother at Pinchurst,
North Carolina; that inside one of these pamphlets there was a list of
the enemies of the United States which included names of numerous
individuals in Washington, D. C. She stated that one of the pamphlets
contained the lineage of the ROOSEVELT family; that she recalled that
another one referred to the curse of the Communists in the South; and
that still another contained comments which, in her opinion, justified
HITLER'S action. She stated that the pamphlets in question were
published by the Constitutional Educational League, Inc., and that it was
her opinion that this organization was established by former members of
the America First Committee, her opinion being based on the fact that

the pamphlets in question were very similar to those formerly distributed by the America First Committee; and further, because most of them contained a number of quotations from speeches made by CHARLES AUGUSTUS LINDBERGH.

further stated that the pamphlets received by her mother on December 3, 1941, had been destroyed. She stated that owned a home and that while she was not personally acquainted with this individual, she supposed that he was acquainted with her and her family and had consequently placed their names on the mailing list.

latter part of March, 1942, she received a pamphlet entitled, "Why Win The War," which publication reflects that the national headquarters of the Constitutional Educational League, Inc., are at 831 Chapel Street, New Haven, Connecticut, with New York Headquarters at 342 Madison Avenue, New York City, and midwest headquarters at Madison, Misconsin, in the Pioneer Building. In addition to this pamphlet, received a blank for enrollment in the Constitutional Educational League, Inc., and a petition to the President of the United States, and that these pamphlets aroused her to such an extent that on April 2, 1942, she directed a rather lengthy letter to paragraph of which reads as follows:

It is difficult for me to understand why you selected first my Mother as the recipient of that fine batch of trouble-making isolationist pumphlets you mailed her last December, and now my late husband, for this latest hash of soditious, garbled sentiments. I can think of nothing he ever did or said which would lead you believe that he would be remotely interested in the efforts of a reformed America First to reinstate itself with a thoroughly disgusted public. Perhaps you do not know that at a meeting of Fight for Freedom he quoted passages from the ones you sent, with devastating effect? In fact I consider it an insult that his name should be on your mailing list. Please remove it.

received a letter from the subsequently which reads as follows:

I am sorry that you feel offended because of the literature received from me. However, I want to assure you that it was sent with the best intentions on the assumption that being good Americans, you people would naturally be interested in really winning the war and at the same defending end preserving the American System of Society and Government which has done so such for so

many of us in Pinchurst and Southern Pines; and, in fact, all over the length and breadth of Our United States of America. I will, of course, respect your wishes and you will not receive any further Literature.

Because of your evident sincerity, I am writing to correct a mistaken impression on your part, so that you will not continue to labor under your apparent misapprehendsion.

To infer that the Constitutional Educational League, Inc., is responsible for the state or condition of our unpreparedness is unjust and not true, because that organization is composed largely of veterans of the last "Torld "ar including many leaders in the American Legion which has been in the Forefront of the Fight to keep Our Nation propared for War. The Constitutional Educational League, Inc was for many years an active promoter of the Citizens Military Training Camps and more than that, it has never taken AN ISOLATION—IST POSITION.

I am glad and happy to learn that you are all for the work of The Dies Committee and The Feder I Bureau of Investigation, because so am I, and so is The Constitutional Educational League, Inc., as evidenced by the attitude it takes in its literature and more than that the League's stand on the matter of Communism and Russia is identical with the views expressed by Congressman Martin Dies.

There has been so much propaganda in connection with Russia coming out of Washington that I can readily understand why you-and many other good Americans—are slightly confused on THE REAL ISSUE. We are told that the Russian Communists just hate the American Communists. We are told that there is no connection whatever between the American Communists and the Russian Communists. We are told that Russia is no longer & COMMUNIST DICTATORSHIP. If all of this is so, then surely there can be no objection from 'Capitalistic' Mr. Stallin, or from 'Democratic' Russian People to action which we may take to prevent the Spread of COMMUNISM IN OUR UNITED STATES.

To suggest that criticism of Communists in high places in Our Government—who are responsible for deadly inefficiency and destructive disunity—will create friction and discourage Soviet Russia in her war effort, is utter and pure NONSENSE. Stalin's recent 'Order of the Day' to the Red Army definitely indicated that the Communists are not going to Fight for the 'Four Freedoms' everywhere in the world, but are solely concerned with the job of driving the Germans and their Armies across the Russian Border back to Germany, and it is certain that they will not be swerved

in this determination regardless of what we may or may not do.

It is very evident that unless we get the use of Russian bases such as Vladivostok, we may have a very difficult time doing any effective bombing of Japan. But, we have now been at war with Japan for ever four menths and our ally, Soviet Russia, has not only failed to make such bases available, but has, in no uncertain language, indicated that she intends to confine horself to the job of defeating the Nazi invaders. And now, at the height of Our War with Japan, our Ally Russia makes a treaty with Japan—a friendly treaty with OUR ENERY.

In spite of the Constitutional Educational Loague's distaste for Russian Communism, the booklet about which you complain agrees that the United States must give Russia any and every possible assistance to help her win a military victory over Our Common Enemy, HITLER. The booklet makes no criticism of Russia's scheme of government as such, but there is no earthly reason why the Constitutional Educational League, Inc and all other Good Americans should not take steps to insure the success of Our Own War Effort by eliminating incompetent COMMUNISTS AND THEIR SATELLITES from POSITIONS OF POWER IN OUR WAR PROGRAM.

I want to assure you that the publishers of 'Mmy Win the 'Ar' do not presume to be 'Arm-chair Strategists'. They have made no suggestions as to how the Army or Navy are to go about winning the War. They are merely a little more realistic than a great many people when they point out that the Army and Navy cannot win unless they have something to fight and WIN WITH.

While I have failed to find anything that might be considered 'Jingoistic' in the pemphlet published by The League, I am in full agreement with you that Our ENERGY SHOULD BE CONCENTRATED IN WINNING THE WAR. It is precisely for this reason that I am doing what I can to arouse public opinion so as to prevent the energies that should be devoted to winning the war from being misdirected to stimulate and perpetuate 'A CLASS WAR'. Thether or not Our American System will be saved after the war will depend entirely on the kind of men who happen to be in controle at that time. I do not think Our Country's provious state, which you described as 'Selfish, Narrow, Nationalism' will have anything to do with it.

Neither the League, as I understand it, nor myself are adverse to any necessary effort that will load to international cooperation.

But we are concerned and would be suspicious of any scheme promoted by Marxians which would impair or destroy Our Constitutional Republic.

Very truly yours

P.S. North Carolina Address;

P.P.S. It may interest you that both at my Pinchurst NC. Estate and apartment in NYCity. I have the U.S.A. British Union Jack, and Canadian Flags on my fireplace mantlepieces. I believe in the team.

pointed out that she, in her of being a member of a reformed America First Committee, and that he, in his subsequent letter, did not dany this accusation.

REFERRED UPON COMPLETION TO THE OFFICE OF ORIGIN

UNDEVELOPED LEADS

THE NEW YORK FIELD DIVISION:

AT NEW YORK CITY, will determine by an examination of their office records, or by appropriate investigation, whether the Constitutional Educational Loague is in fact a continuation of the America First Committee.

THE NEW HAVEN FIELD DIVISION:

AT NEW HAVEN, COMNECTICUT, will conduct the same investigation requested of the New York Field Division.

THE MILNAUKEE FIELD DIVISION:

AT MINNAUKEE, FISCONSIN, will conduct the same investigation requested of the New York Field Division.

12146

Agent in Charge Je, Worth Caroline

MR: AMERICA FIRST CONCITTED INTERNAL SECURITY - 6

Beer Bire

: Gandy___

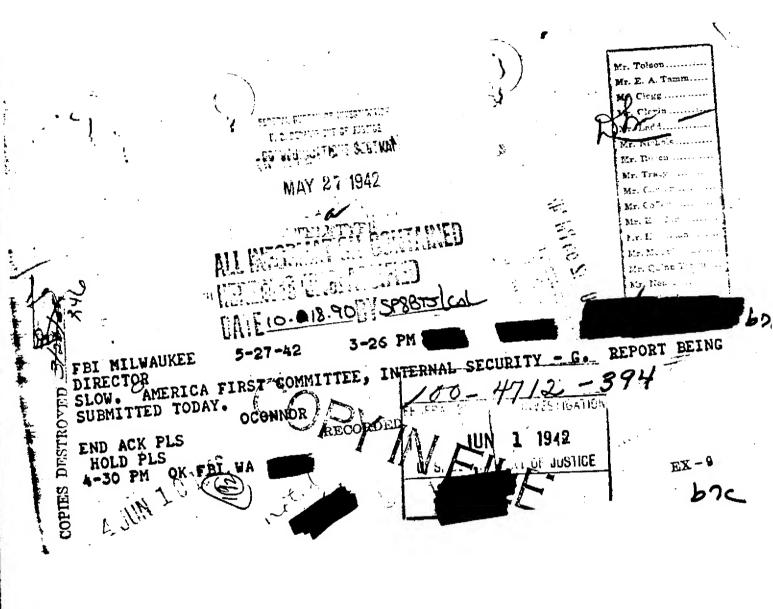
Inference is made to the report of Special Agent dated May 27, 1942, at Charlotte, North Carolina, containing undeveloped lands for the New York, New Haven and Milwankee Field Divisions. These undeveloped lands were set forth for the purpose of determining whether the Constitutional Educational League is in fact a continuation of the America First Countition.

The Buress has a voluminous file on the Constitutional Educational bottleague, Inc., The Buress Et al., Internal Security - G. This organisation was in existence long before the America First Countities was formed and can in me may be considered a continuation of that Countities.

Accordingly, the New York, New Haven and Milwaukee Field Mivisions can ignore the leads set forth in reference report.

Yeary truly yours,

Tolson	Birector All Figure Sover	•
Ladd COMMUNICATIONS SI Nickol Sew Tork CLW A 1 L E 1	CATE 10-13 90 BY SPERISCO	Ļ.
Tracy Chiefe Carson Chiefe Coffey FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTI Hendon U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUST	IGATION	
McGuire G JIII 194		76



CONFICENTIAL

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Form No. 1 THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT CHICAGO, ILLINOIS. FILE NO. 100-1055 ... DATE WHEN MADE PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE REPORT MADE BY REPORT MADE AT 5,14,15,16,17, 5-28-42 MEN CRIEANS 18,19,22-42. CHARACTER OF CASE TITLE AMPRICA FIRST COMMITTEE INTERNAL SECURITY - G. NGCER EN IN THE COURSE MERCENISE. America First Committee not known to sources of information SYNFESIS OF FACTS: and Confidential Informants of the New Orleans office. Indices of the New Orleans office, the newspaper morgue of the Times-Picayune, New Orleans, and the Public Library searched but no information concerning subject organisation in this district. According to Confidential Informants at Inquiries in this connection negative. - R UC -Letter from Bureau to all Special Agents in Charge dated 5-16-42; Reference: Teletype from Bureau to all Special Agents in Charge dated 5-11-42. AT MEW ORLEADS, LOUISIANA: Details: The indices of the New Orleans Field Office were examined but nothing was contained therein that would indicate the existence of the America First Committee in the state of Louisiana. DESTROYE RECORDED DEXE 2 Chicago 2 Detroit 2 Now Orleans Coursonly

COMPDENTIAL

(c) [

mation has come to their attention concerning a speaker for the America First Committee. These informants advised further that to their knowledge such an organization as the America First Committee does not exist in the state of Louisiana. They stated too that they know of no representatives of this organization nor of any persons who are affiliated in any way with this organization in this district.

Bureau, reported that he had no information econorming the America Pirst Committee and knew of no affiliates with this organization in the state of Louisians.

has some to their attention concerning the existence or activities of the America First Committee in the city of New Orleans or in the state of Louisiana. They reported that no literature or publications of the America First Committee have come to their attention and know of no persons in the city of New Orleans or elsewhere who might be associated in any way with subject organization. They advised, however, that they would be alert for any information relative thereto in the future and should any information concerning the activities of this organization come to their attention they would immediately notify the writer.

CONTRACTOR OF THE PARTY OF THE



The files of the newspaper morgue of the Times-Picayune, 615 North Street, New Orleans, were examined but nothing was contained therein emberning any information whatever as to the existence or any elitivity of the America First Committee in the city of New Orleans or state of Louisians.

have a wide acquaintance in New Orleans and in other sections of the state of Louisiana, advised that to their knowledge there was no such organization as the America First Committee in existence in the state of Louisiana. They advised further that they knew of no person or persons representing this organization or anyone affiliated therewith in the state of Louisiana.

the state of Louisiana, advised that to his knowledge there is no such organisation as the America First Committee in the state of Louisiana, nor did he know of any representative of the organisation in the state of Louisian

The indices of the New Orleans Public Library, 1031 St. Charles Avenue, were examined but nothing could be found concerning this organization in the state of Louisiana. However, from an article in the June, 1942, issue of the American Mercury, Volume 54, No. 217, entitled, "Inside The American Pirst Movement", by JOHN RAY CARLSON, the following is quoted:

"..... In Detroit and Philadelphia, the Reverend Gerald L. K.
Smith has spoken at tumultuous rallies of the Committee. Smith is a former member of Pelley's Silver Shirt Legion, a militarist organisation based on the Maxi model. Smith was an associate of Emey P. Long and has collaborated with Father Coughlin"

It may be noted that the Reverend GERALD L. E. SMITH, a former pastor of the King's Highmay Church at Shreveport, Louisiana, left Louisiana in 1937 to take up residence in Detroit, Michigan, where he is residing at the time. He returned to Louisiana in 1940 for a very short time to assist in the campaign of RARL LONG for the Governorship of Louisiana.

Investigation being conducted relative to SMITH will be reported in the file on that subject in which Detroit is origin.

- REFERRED UPON COMPLETION TO THE OFFICE OF ORIGIN -

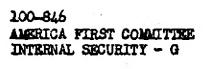
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION FOIPA DELETED PAGE INFORMATION SHEET

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

FORM No. 1	CKAL BUKE	AU OF II	WESTIGATION		
THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT CH			JUNEAU FILE NO. 100-846		
Juneau, Alaska	5/25/42	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE 3/31/42:	REPORT MADE BY	7c_	
l	7/2/142	1/21/12;	CHARACTER OF CASE		
YITLE ()	· •. ·	5/6/42		_	
AMERICA FIR	ST COMMITTEE		INTERNAL SECURITY	- G	
in gr Co no	June 1941 but a oup decided to mmittee rather	after one mee affiliate with than American ty noted. No	zed in Juneau, Alaska ting at which the h the America First Peace Mobilization evidence of underground on in Alaska.	. <i>1</i>	
		RUC	AU FIRST CONTRACTOR OF		
REFERENCE: Bu	ırezu letter dat	ed March 16,	1912/16-10-18-90 115	PSB13/C	
DETAILS: AT	r Juneau. Alaska)		
Juneau, Alas group. The were protest becoming im possibility were discuss and the gene discussion joint meetin Peace Mobili	ska to form a un general subject ts against war a volved in Europe of invasion by sed, as was the eral topic of wa was had relative ng of the America ization. Also de affiliate with	it of the America matters disc and a possibil man conflicts a European po effect of war ar profits mad to whether to a First Commit iscussion was a the America a. Although to	meeting was held at rican Peace Mobilization cussed at this meeting ity of the United States and to ridicule the ower. The horrors of war upon trade unionism is by "the rich". Some the mass meeting was a tree and the American had as to whether the Pirst Committee or the the persons primarily into no nor wanted with the persons primarily into the persons persons primarily into the persons persons primarily persons persons p	TENEDARY	
2 Chicago, 1 G-2 Anch 1 G-2 Pres 1 CNI Seat	tle"	JUIL	L L	70	



in calling the meeting were apparently mainly interested in an American Peace Mobilization organization, the meeting adjourned without any definite action taken as to which group would be chasen and it was decided that the group should re-convene the following week.

The second meeting was held on June 6, 1941 at the Union Hall, Juneau, Alaska, at which meeting the merits of the America First Committee and those of the American Peace Mobilization were discussed, with neither side appearing to know a great deal concerning the purposes of either organization. The matter was put to a vote and the result of the vote was decidedly in favor of the group affiliating with the America First Committee rather than the American Peace Mobilization. A committee of three was appointed and plans were to be formulated to organize similar groups in other parts of Alaska. Future meetings were to be called by the committee appointed. However, to date no further meetings have been called or held and there is no indication that this organization ever functioned in Alaska after the second meeting on June 6, 1941 at Juneau, Alaska. No known attempts were made in other parts of the Territory of Alaska to organize an America First group.

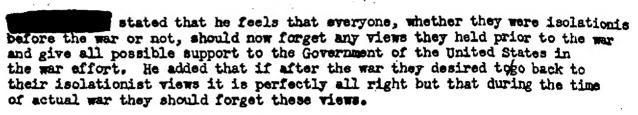
with reference to Bureau letter dated March 16, 1942, concerning the America First organization.

The Contested. It is noted that has made the statement to an Agent of the Juneau Office that he was a firm believer in the America First Committee.

was an isolationist prior to the time the United States entered the war but since the declaration of war has expressed his desire to see all effort possible made to defeat the Axis powers. It is felt that if the America First group was endeavoring to re-organize either openly or underground, would be aware of this fact and further, that he would truthfully advise whether or not such a movement had started.

He advised that he had not heard anything concerning a re-organization that the America First group in Alaska. He added that it was his impression that organization had disbanded in the States and was no longer functioning. However, he stated that he still feels that there is plenty of isolationist sentiment in the United States and he said that in his opinion there is little doubt but what the America First group will again organize. From conversation had with the still was gathered that he considered a re-organization in an open manner as it was prior to the declaration of ware

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AMERICA FIRST COMMITTEE
INTERNAL SECURITY - G



stated that he has not heard any comments in Juneau concerning subject organization since the time when the attempts were made to establish it in Juneau in June, 1941. In his opinion the organization in Alaska is completely defunct.

In conclusion stated that should be hear any reports concerning the re-organization of the America First Committee in Alaska be would advise the Juneau Office of such facts.

America First group. He stated that he has heard of no activity of this organization since the second meeting in June, 1941. He stated that he has no knowledge of any activities of such group subsequent to the meeting of Jun and has heard no rumors or reports in recent months that any effort was being made to re-organize. He expressed the opinion that this group never would get completely organized in Alaska and feels certain that there is no such organization at the present time.

America First Committee was again attempting to organize in Juneau. He stated that he has heard no one mention this organization in recent months and believes it had died out completely after the second meeting was held in June, 1941.

advised, as stated above, that at the second meeting which was held in June, 1941, the persons attending the mass meeting decided to affiliate with the America First Committee rather than the American Peace Mobilization. However, after the second meeting no information came to his attention indicating that the America First Committee functioned in any manner and he feels that the organization was defunct.

Advised that he has heard no rumor and knows of no information indicating the America First Committee is again attempting to organize in Juneau.

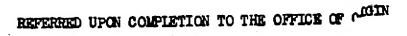


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It will be noted that at no place in the Territory of Alaska exceptions any information been received that the America First Committee endeavored to organize. It is felt that either one or all of the above informants would be aware of an attempted re-organization of the America First Committee in Juneau if such were the case.

From information gathered concerning the meetings held in Juneau, it appears somewhat doubtful whether the organization in Juneau ever actually became affiliated with the national group of subject organization in assuch as the movement in Juneau appeared to completely cease after the second meeting.

In view of the absence of evidence of the existence of an underground America First Movement in Alaska, this case is being refered upon completion to the Office of Origin. In the event information is obtained indicating activity on the part of subject organization, further investigation will be conducted.



FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION FOIPA DELETED PAGE INFORMATION SHEET

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BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION : Case Originated At: CHICAGO, ILLINOIS File: 100-668 ort made at Date when made Period 4-6,9,22,5-1 <u>CHICAGO, ILLINOIS</u> Title AMERICA FIRST COMMITTEE INTERNAL SECURITY (G) Synopsis of Facts: Subject organization issued press release 16932 announcing dissolution December 11, 1941 and all activities suspended shortly thereafter. The membership lists and files in the Chapters throughout the country were called into National headquarters. These were split up and taken by Gen. ROBERT E. WOOD, National Chairman, Gen. THOMAS F. HAMMOND, Chairman Chicago Committee, and JANEL AYER FAIRBANK, Director of Chicago Chapter. No National meetings have been held since December 15, 1941. Investigation reveals that several radical groups urged its members to join America First prior to dissolution; this included the German-American National Alliance of whom more than 600 members were members of the america First, Chapter, Chicago. Some local chapters of america First have continued meetings and have allied themselves with related groups. There have been plans made to weld those groups and former members of merica First who are still opposed to the war 13-79ort into a United Peace Front, which effort has approved and 5-Burcau 1942 2-New York 2-Newark-(Jrf

2-Seattle (Inf) 2-Wish. Field (Inf)

Rule be, Federal Racedon of Criminal Rosedon not been successful to date.

Bureau letter to all Field Division dated March 16, 1942

Report of Special Agent New York City,

dated May 13, 1942.

DETAILS: At Chicago, Illinois.

The America First Committee was incorporated in the State of Illinois, September 19, 1940. Its National Headquarters were located at Room 1806, Board of Trade Building, Chicago. From a statement of the National Committee of the America First Committee issued December 11, 1941, it was stated that the America First Committee was organized in the summer of 1940 with two primary objectives:

an impregnable defense for our nution.

2. Avoidance of involvement in the European and Asiatic war.

From the America First Committee bulletin #691, issued November 19, a copy of which bulletin was furnished to the Chicago Field Office the following named persons are listed as being members of the National Committee as of the abovementioned date.

SAMUEL HOPKINS ADAMS

CHESTER BOWLES

OTTO A. CASE

DR. A. J. CARLSON WILLLAM R. C.STLE

MRS. BENNETT CHLEP CLARK

IRVIN S. COBB

JANET AYER FLIRELNK

MRS. ELLEN FRENCH V.JIDERBILT FITZSIMONS

JOHN T. FLYNN

GEN. THOMAS HALLOOD

J.Y C. HORIEL

William L. Hutcheson

GEN. HUGH S. JOHNSON

CLAY JUDSON

CHIRLES ... LINDBERGH

LICE ROOSEVELT LONG.ORTH

FRANK O. LOWDEN

HLNFORD MAC NIDER 🔑

CLIRENCE KINION .

MRS. JOHN P. MARQUAND

GREGORY HL.SON

RCY MC KAIG

WILLIAM H (ALFALFA BILL) MURRAY

KATHLEEN NORRIS

J. SANFORD OTIS

GEORGE N. PEEK

IS.AC ... PENHYPACKER

100-00 3

AMOS R.E. PINCHOT
WILLIAM H. REGNERY
LRS. RUTH HANNA MC CORNICK STRUS
HARRY L. STUART
R. DOUGLAS STUART, JR.

LOUIS J. TOBER
EDWARD S. WEBSTER, JR.
MRS. BURTON K. WHEELER
DR. GEORGE H. WHIPPLE
OEN. ROBE T E. WOOD

The Chicago and Illinois Chapters of the America First Committee maintained headquarters at 122 South Michigan. The following were officers of the Chicago Chapter:

GENERAL THOMAS HAMMOND--Chairman

JAMET AYER FAIRBANK--Vice President and Director

CORNELL, HOWE--Secretary

GEORGE A. BANNEY, JR., -- Treasurer

pertaining to the organization of the Chicago and Illinois Chapters as obtained from

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Committee, opened headquarters January 1, 1941 in the Railway Exchange Building. In three weeks we required more space and moved to the present headquarters at 122 South Michigan.

"The office operates with a minimum force consisting of :

Chairman Speakers Bureau

2 men - Publicity

Switchboard operator

Bookkeeper

Stockman

Statistical and filing clerk

Secretary of Chapter Organization

Secretary to Mrs. Fairbank

"In the nine months that the Chicago and Illinois Chapter has operated, we have had 167 men and women volunteer their services at our headquarters. A great number of these volunteers are most faithful—some of them girls who work in offices all day donate their services in the evening. Through their efforts we have been able to carry on our work with a minimum office force.

Postage and printing have been the two largest items of expenditure. The Chicago Chapter has printed and distributed -- 373,150 copies of speeches 980,300 instructive pamphlets and circulars 336,300 display pieces (buttons, posters and stickers) 405,200 letters to members and prospective members 599,000 mimeographed instructions and bulletins for members."

furnished a list of the Illinois Chapters and Chairman as of October 17, 1941. Because of its length, the entire list is not being set forth but copies are being prepared and will be forwarded to the Bureau as soon as completed. A review of the list reflects the following Chapters located in the City of Chicago.

CHAPTER

Austin

Belmont

Christopher Columbus 746 South Loomis

Edgewater

Hyde Park 1328 E. 57th St.

Logan Square

Loyola 6519 Sheridan Road

Morgan Park

Rogers Park

South Shore

South Side 3452 South State Street CILAIRMAN

DENNIS W. SCULLY

MRS. NOEL HUNT

PETER GREENFIELD

MRS. WILLIAM WESTERLUND

DR. FRED L. ADAIR

MRS. MATHILDA ELOFSON

LOUIS GABRS

KRS. GRACE LEWIS

HENRY J. BERENZ

DONALD E. HORTON

Val-Washington

Christopher Columbus, Hyde Park, Loyola, and South Side Chapters maintained open headquarters at the addresses as listed. Because of its length, it is not being set forth in full but a copy is being prepared and will be forwarded to the Bureau when completed. furnished a report This is set forth as follows:

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and will be forwarded to the Bureau when completed.

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are being prepared and

will be forwarded to the Bureau when completed.

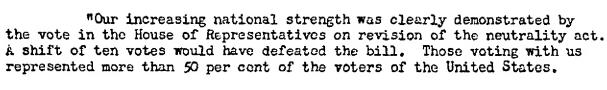
The files of all sub-divisions and Chapters of subject organization throughout the country were called in by the National Office.

has advised that there was a very good response to this request. The investigation to date has failed to reveal any indication that the structure of America First, has in any way, been used by foreign interests or individuals cooperating with foreign interests. There is no indication that any responsible leaders of America First has, to date, made available any of the membership lists, not formerly America First members. There have been a few local Chapters, as will be set forth later in this report, who have reportedly made available lists and pledged cooperation to certain radical groups but these have been isolated instances and in the opinion of persons interviewed, represent only a minute minority of the total membership of subject organization.

It was also the opinion of persons interviewed that the large majority of the rank and file membership of America First and most all of the leaders were sincere and honest isolationists. However, it has been reported that some of the leaders of America First charged with maintenance of the file and who held responsible positions in the organization, contemplate political activity in the future with the organization as it was left, and have since December 11th taken steps in this regard. The following is set forth to show the political activities and possible future plans of these persons.

During the month prior to Pearl Harbor,

advised that serious contemplation was given by America
First leaders to the formation of a political party to campaign for
isolationist candidates. He advised that they adoped a slogan, "We'll
meet you at the Polls". In this connection, he furnished a copy of a
communication over the signature of R. E. WOOD, Chairman, which is set
forth as follows:



With this achievement it is important to consider our program for the future. I am calling a meeting of the National Committee on November 28. For that meeting we would like to have the views of our Chapter Chairman on their concept of our future course.

"Probably the most significant decision confronting the Committee will be the question of whether the America First Committee and its chapters should undertake a broad program of non-partisan political support (in the primaries and general elections of 1942) for those members of Congress who have placed "patriotism above politics". Thus our organization would support those men - Democrats or "epublicans - who have courageously opposed the Administration's war policy.

"By November 25 we would like to have your considered judgment as to the best future program for the america First Committee. You will undoubtedly have time to consult with the members of your Executive Committee so that your letter will reflect the views of your Chapter. All thoughts will be welcome but I suggest that you submit in separate form those dealing with the non-partisan political program.

"Once again I would like to express our appreciation for the gallant fight made by your chapter against repeal of the neutrality act.

Sincerely,

R.E. WOOD"

Enclosed with this letter, presumably addressed to Chairman of the various Chapters, was a list of the Congressmen who had voted against the repeal of the neutrality act.

In view of the efforts being made in November 1941 to form a new political party, and as will be set forth hereinafter in this report, the opinion of several persons interviewed that the leaders of America First will, in all probability, endeavor to form a new political party with the former members of America First as a nucleus, it is deemed important to set forth the activities of the America First Committee in detail just prior to December 7, 1941.

who was in close contact with the activities of subject organization and its members furnished the following information concerning these activities.

From a report dated November 22, 1941, the following is set forth:

"My man tells me there is a slight difference of opinion between MRS. JANET AYER FAIRBANK and GENERAL WOOD these days. GENERAL WOOD wants to hold a joint rally of America First and subb organization as "We, The Mothers" and WILLIAM J. MACE(S "Citizens Keep America Out of War Committee". MRS. FAIRBANK opposes it as she considered those groups 'the rabble' and in no way to be recognized by the America First openly as equals.

mmy man tells me that a number of halls in Chicago are now shy about renting their premises to the America First for meetings and rallies. This, he says, goes for the managements of the Coliseum, the International amphitheatre, the Arena, and even Orchestra Hall, the latter is known to have quite a few pro-Hazis and America Firsters on its staff.

"Transformation of the America First Committee into a political party is being actively pushed by GENERAL WOOD. No new resignations have occurred from the America First topnotch ranks but those who had resigned in September and October insist that their names not be used in any way. Apparently, they threaten unpleasant publicity should their wishes be disregarded. My man tells me that the family of some of those individuals who have resigned continue to contribute money into america First."

From the report for the week ending November 29, 1941, furnished by the following is set forth:

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"The highlight of the week just passed was the meeting of the National Executive Committee. Early in the week, my man turned over to me a letter from GENERAL ROBERT E. WOOD to Chapter Heads inviting their opinions "on the non-partisan political support" which America First is to give at the polls in 1942 to all those candidates who are or will be against this country's foreign policy. These opinions were to be in by November 25, preliminary to the National Executive Committee meeting called in Chicago for November 28.

"The meeting was held Friday the 28th, in the home of CLAY JUDSON, member of the Executive Committee and PAGE HUFTY, omployed by America First, at

The meeting lasted from 1:00 to 5:30 p.m. and the main decision was to plunge the America First Committee into the political activity under the guise of 'non-partisan political support' at the polls to 'the right man' in both parties. Much money will be spent in each precinct in the country and will eventually there will be a captain and his assistant carrying out America First orders. It is felt that the middlewest

is the easiest place to start the new program and that it may be enough to pick off two or three congressman for their pro-Roosevelt stand to begin with—this will frighten many other congressman and senators into abandoning the President.

"The decision was to be 'dirty' in all the future political work (not that the America First Committee has been clean in its methods so far, but you can well imagine how much dirtier these will become). The preliminary work is to start right now, but the main drive is to be opened after January 1. Legal steps are to be taken at once to allow America First this new plunge into the poll work. This precaution may well be the result of America First leaders' uneasy regard for certain obscure clauses of the Match Act.

"EARL JEFFRIES was recently brought to work in the America First offices as a specialist in just such political work. Certain leaders, notably, MRS. JANET AYER FAIRBANK, thought highly of him and his worth to America First in the new work at the polls. Thus, it comes as a considerable surprise to learn from my man that a few days ago GENERAL WOOD sent JEFFRIES a letter of curt dismissal, effective December 1. It is possible that WOOD has far greater plans than JEFFRIES is capable of carrying out. It is also possible that the Sears-Roebuck warrior is trying to get even with MRS. FAIRBANK in a rather petty way. MRS. FAIRBANK, you see, is constantly disagreeing with GENERAL WOOD on the problems of procedure and personnel. She is postilent on the subject of young ROBBIE--. R. DOUGLAS STUART, the national director whom WOOD likes but she jealously dislikes and zealously tries to undermine. The firing of JEFFRIES came as a shock not only to the victim himself, but also to MRS. F. She is now valiantly trying to save his neck. There is even a rumor in the America First offices that at the meeting of the national executive body she tried to appeal to that body over the head of the General.

Her victim is ROBERT CAREY, the publicity man in the S. Michigan offices of America First and his assistant or assistants. MRS. FAIREANK had been for quite some time rather dissatisfied with his work, feeling that she wasn't getting enough local publicity through him. She demanded a report from him, and he submitted one in a blow-my-own-trumpet style (you have by now a copy). MRS. FAIRBANK was not impressed, and fired him and his entire staff, thus saving £150 per week. In his place, a certain MRS.

J. FREDERISK REEVES is now working as MRS. FAIRBANK'S and America First' publicity expert. A niece of COL.MC CORMICK and a volunteer, MRS. REEVES costs America First nothing a week and may indeed bring in much coverage in the local press--not only in the house-organ in the Tower, but also in the Hearst paper, which of late has not been giving America First as great a break as during the first Lend-Lease agitation.

"CAREY is supposed to be a friend of LINDBERGH'S and may appeal but LINDBERGH will disregard the appeal (so says my man). Incidentally, from another source we learn that LINDBERGH may soon be clearing out of New Jersey as a permanent residence. He is building a house for himself and his family at Seven Gates Farm, Martha's Vineyard, Mass., but at the same time there is definite talk that he will return to Minnesota at least six months before that State's September, 1942, primary in order to establish his legal residence and run for the Senate. It is possible that Martha's Vineyard will be his retreat while Minnesota will serve as his working grounds.

"If the "meet-you-at-the-polls" policy of America First assumes a third-party aspect, LINDBERGH'S race in Minnesota will be the outstanding feature of its first season. Without any doubt whatsoever the leaders of America First maintain that LINDBERGH will win in Minnesota, and that this will give the third party a tremendous start in life. It is true that American history teaches inevitable failure of every third party that ever came up to bid for power, but America First leaders privately point out that not every major party survived a major political crists. They feel that the Republican Party may disappear from American life as completely as the Whig Party did, and for approximately the same reason: an internal split. America First leaders feel that the America First Committee may well become the second, not third, party. Such in fact is the main hope and aim in the present plunge of America First into the work at the polls."

From the report of america first for the week ending December 6, 1941 furnished by the following is set forth.

"My man tells me that plans to hold a large America First rally in the Stadium sometime between December 14th and Christmas holidays have been abandoned. The December 14th Rally scheduled to take place at Orchestra Hall is expected to be a rather ordinary affair with no big names present but with enough preparatory work put in to insure a full hall, seating capacity close to 3000. Enough Germans and irish can be counted upon to come down town on Sunday afternoon to spend Sunday afternoon in Orchestra Hall.

NEWTON JENKINS is mentioned in the America First offices as a possible second speaker to share the platform with DEAN MANION of Notre Dame. Some members of the America First staff know the shady past and dubious connections of JENKINS but keep quiet about it, not wishing to contradict the almight and ever impatient JANET FAIRBANK. She is much in favor of JENKINS, believing him to be a "lovely, fine personality".

The America First leaders claim they have 6000 members in the Stockyards District, mainly Italians but some Germans, too, and they have been organized, according to JANET AYER FAIRBANK and GENERAL WOOD, for the coming political 'meet-you-at-the-polls' campaign. The activities of NEWTON JENKINS and the organization known as the United Community Builders has come to the attention of the Chicago Field Division and has been made the subject of a pending investigation.

From the Chicago Daily News dated December 3, 1941, the following clipping was secured.

"PLANS TO REVAMP ALIERICA FIRST TOLD BY WOOD

A reorganization plan transforming america First into an active political agency in the pattern of major political parties has been outlined by Brig. Gen. ROBERT E. WOOD, retired, Chairman of the committee.

"Clarifying its program for the 1942 elections, WOOD said "a corporation will be set up in conformity with national election laws."

"'As a nonprofit corporation we cannot now contribute to political campagins,' WOOD said. He reiterated that America First had no intention of becoming a 'third party'.

"'We'll be something like the old Anti-Saloon League', he said, supporting a Republican here, a Democrat there and perhaps a Progressive. It depends upon their foreign policy stand entirely:

"One of the candidates the committee will back for re-election, it was announced, will be Senator C. WAYLAND BROOKS."

Following the Japanese attack on Pearl Harbor December 7, 1941, the National Committee, issued the following statement dated December 11, 1941 amouncing the dissolution of subject organization. This statement was furnished by and is set forth as follows:

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"The America First Committee was organized in the summer of 1940 with two primary objectives:

(1) An impregnable defense for our nation.

(2) Avoidance of involvement in the European and Asiatic war.

Our principles were right. Had they been followed, war could have been avoided. No good purpose can now be served by considering what might have been, had our objectives been attained.

"On Sunday, December 7, Japan launched an attack upon us.

"On Monday, December 8, Congress declared war on Japan.

"Today, December 11, 1941, Congress declared war on Germany & Italy.

"There is no longer any question about our involvement in the conflict in Europe and Asia. We are at war. Today, though there may be many important subsidiary consideration, the primary objective is not difficult to state. It cam be completely defined in one word--victory.

"While the executive branch of the government will take charge of the prosecution of the war, the fundamental rights of American citizens under our Constitution and Bill of Rights must be respected. The long range aims and policies of our country must be determined by the people through Congress. We hope that secret treaties committing America to imperialistic aims or vast burdens in other parts of the world shall be scrupulously avoided to the end that this nation shall become the champion of a just and lasting peace.

"The period of democratic debate on the issue of entering the war is over; the time for military action is here. Therefore, the America First committee has determined immediately to cease all functions and to dissolve as soon as that can legally be done. And finally, it urges all those who have followed its lead to give their full support to the war effort of the nation, until peace is attained."

furnished a copy of a letter addressed, JOHN LA WHEELER, Los Angeles California, over the signature of ROBERT E. WOOD, Chairman. This letter Los ingeles, was dated December 12, 1941 and informed WHEELER that the National Committee had passed a resolution directing that the America First Committee and affiliated sub-divisions be dissolved. He stated that "since its formation in September 1940, the America First Committee has contended that the United States should build an impregnable National Defense and avoid participation in foreign wars. We have held further that a policy of aid to other countries would weaken our own defense and tend to draw us into the conflict. We believe that our principles were right then and are right now. We believe that if the government had followed the policy which we advocated, war could have been avoided and America and the world would have benefited. We make no apologies for the position which we have taken and we firmly believe that history will prove that we are right. We hope that that as individual you will exert you efforts in support of the members of the Senate and House of Representatives who have so bravely carried on this fight."

A copy of this letter is being prepared and will be forwarded to the Bureau when completed.

Concerning the dissolution meeting of the Executive Committee held on December 11, 1941, Furnished the following report.

6L

"My man tells me that today's meeting of the America First National Executive Committee (in PAGE HUFTY'S apartment on North Astor Street) lasted from noon to 6:30 and finally ended in a decision to dissolve the America First Committee.

"The long hours of the meeting are explained by the fact that certain members of the Executive Committee were against dissolving.

JANET AYER FAIRBANK and LINDBERGH were for dissolution; R.W. STUART and a few others were against. 'That Nazi STUART', remarked MRS. FAIRBANK to MISS CORNELIA HOWE, her woman Friday in the America First Regional Office.

STUART and other wanted to keep america First afloat in order to have a political weapon during the elections of 1942. MRS. FAIRBANK was--and is-against any activity by the America First from now on.

"My man remarks, (and he had plenty of opportunity to watch her this momentous week), MRS. FAIRBANK is plain scared of what the government may do to her should the america First Committee go on, and above all, should she continue to be associated with it. When certain of the members of the National Executive Committee proposed to dissolve the america First Committee but keep incorporated and intact legally for at least one more year, she protested vigorously, and refused to have anything to do with it. As she is one of the original incorporaters, the corporation is expected to be broken up in the near future.

There are practically no funds left in the america First Regional office of MRS. FaIRBANK but a considerable money surplus is known to exist in the National Office. What to do with it is the question. MRS. FaIRBANK patriotically suggested buying a defense bond with it but the other members insist on keeping the money in ready currency. An opinion has been expressed that MRS. FaIRBANK isn't so patriotic after all—that she merely wants this money to collect interest until the spring when the america First Committee is supposed to come out of the impending hibernation in order to take part in the primaries.

wine room in the basement at the america First Regional Office are to be lired by the middle of next week. It will take longer for the america First National Office to liquidate, perhaps as long as three weeks".

MRS. ELIZABETH LANDA, one of the America First National Office, is rather calm, almost happy, about the dissolution of the America First Committee. She has expressed herself to the effect that since it (the war) had to come, she is glad it came at last, because anyway, "it's the question of either Hitler or Roosevelt and Hitler will win-the sooner, the better".

From a report dated December 10, 1941 entitled "America First After Japanese Attack on United States", a copy of which was furnished by the following is taken.

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May man tells me that on Monday, December 8, the employees of America First Regional Office reported to work as usual but began at once to take down the signs, such as, "Bundles From Britain", showing coffins with bodies of American soldiers. The process of packing and removal is still going on at this writing and is to continue until the middle or end of the next week when the America First Committee is expected to close. My man stated, "The cards will be used in the Spring when the America First leaders intend to come out again under another name, of course, to get interviews at the polls and for a bang-up political campaign. My man tells me that LINDBERGH did not want to issue his call for unity and did it only after GENERAL WOOD exerted considerable pressure upon him by wire and long distance telephone.

R. DOUGLAS STUART, JR., National Director of the America First Committee, issued a statement, not for publication, right after the Japanese attack. The statement was addressed to heads of Chapters throughout the country. He sent a copy of it to MRS. FAIRBANK who read it with expressions of horror, and her arms up in the air, she exclaimed, "My God, That's treason". She called up GENERAL WOOD to stop the statement before it was mailed out but WOOD said it was too late, the statement had already gone cut. We do not know the text or the tone of the STUART statement but MRS. FAIRBANK might have exaggerated her horror of its contents for the simple reason of deep and long-standing animosity for young STUART.

furnished a report concerning the activities of the New York Chapter of America First dated December 9, 1941. From this report the following is quoted:

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"Future Plans for America First

Many of the leaders have already withdrawn. GENERAL WOOD came on yesterday morning and has been negotiating with the New York Committee. As an outcome of that meeting, ED WEBSTER states:

(1) That the Eastern AFC will close their branch offices.

- (2) They will keep the office at 515 Madison Avenue, but will curtail activities.
- (3) They have called off all impending meetings.
- (4) They have given notice to their paid personnel.
- (5) They will make no further statement until the National Committee statement comes out on December 9.
- (6) They will stall on activities but not close down.

"MRS. ETHED TAYLOR states that the organization will carry on (1) to defend the American people from being completely dominated by the Communists, and (2) to do everything possible to keep America out of war with Germany.

"WILLIAM T. LEONARD, who headed the Brooklyn Chapter, has swung around completely and now calls for national defense. He stated this morning: "The statement in the Brooklyn Eagle? I believe that is all we could say under the circumstances. Otherwise all of us would have come under suspicion. It would be too bad to come under suspicion in wartime. Naturally ROOSEVELT is guilty of this war - I hope he will now be happy with his bloody toy."

"It is probable that he will be replaced as head of the Brecklyn Chapter by MR. HORACE HALSE, who states: "I have not changed my principles. This war is not our war. There is only one brave man in america - that is Senator NYE. I am simply disgusted with WHEELER. One thing is sure: I am not going. I will try to find a defense job in the Brocklyn Navy Yard. If that goes wrong, I will look for a hide-out somewhere in the country where I can write my book. I want to do something constructive and not desctructive. They can put me in prison if they want, but I am not going to be shot in this war. The american people have been tricked into this. They were betrayed by their leaders. It is shameful how WOOD and FLYNN and all the others suddenly changed face. If our ideas were true yesterday, they certainly are true today. I hope LEONARD will resign if he feels as he announced. In that case, I might become chairman of the Chapter. We shall carry on as a political party and keep an eye on the government. When the Moosevelt downfall comes, which must come, then we shall take revenge. I know we will lose this war. It may be good for us. Yesterday MANYWALTZ and I sent telegrams to Congressmen not to vote for war."

MRS. J.NET .YER F.IRB.NK had called in several of the former employees in the Regional Office of Lacrica First, prior to the First of January, for the purpose of getting the files together to be packed and sent to GENER.L WOOD and GENER.L H.J.DOND. The informant advised that GENER.L WOOD received the signature cards and GENER.L H.J.MOND was to receive the alphabetical file and that MRS. F.IRB.NK was to retain the contributions cards. The informant stated that GENER.L H.J.MOND insisted upon the alphabetical file for the alleged reason that it was to be used for political purposes. The informant advised that hearly all of the subdivisions and Chapters throughout the country had responded to the request from the National Office for the return of all files to them.

The informant stated that 1988. F.INBLNK had stated that she would get in touch with several of the former employees at a future date when they got ready to do something in the political line.

further stated that thirty to thirty-five girls had been working at the home of 1988. F.INBLNK copying addresses from the america First membership lists, directly after the local Chapter was closed. This was done with the knowledge and consent of GINDLL HABBOUD and COL. ROBERT MC COMMICK of the Chicago Tribune. 1983. F.INBLNK made the statement that the is having one of her wines allers fret-proofed and it was the informant's

she is having one of her winecellars "rat-proofed" and it was the informant's opinion that this "rat-proof" winecellar is being used to store the contribution eards of subject organization to be used at a future date for political purposes.

furnished the following report dated becamber 19, 1941 which is being set forth as follows:

\$ 70

"My man tells me that MMS. J.NET .YEW F.IRB.NK has recovered after her recent panie. Once more she is full of fight. ...cording to what she now says to her assistant, the america First Committee may be dissolved but not finished. JANET decided not to rent her house from anuary 1 to May 1, as she was planning right after the Japanese attack. She is not going away to Mexico, after all, but staying right here in Chicago to prepare for a political fight in favor of Schater BROOKS, Congressman P.DDOCK, DLY and other isolationists. Most of the .merica First files have been moved to IRS. F.I.B.IK'S house on North State Street, and orders have been given to start addressing envelopes to 150,000 members of the .merica First Committee in Illinois, Iowa and Indiana. The .merica First members will be asked by mail, and later by radio and through rallies, to be for defense yet to vote for those isolationists who will reck ru-election in 1942. Interventionist Congressmen and Senators are to be defeated through the same effort. . .

On Wednesday evening, December 18, MRS. FAIRBANK gave a dinner to her staff--some nine guests in all--and seemed to be in pretty high spirits, especially after a few drinks. Among other things, she said she had to fix up a special room in the basement of her house for the America First files and membership cards, to safeguard them against rats. "The rats in Washington are not the only ones," she remarked semi-gaily, semi-grimly.

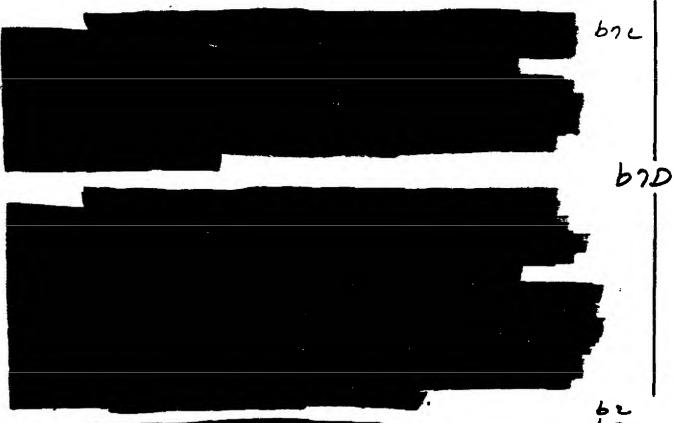
"Some of the membership cards have been shipped to the house of CARIA HOWE, Illinois (telephone Euclid 4949). CARL HOWE is the father of CORNELLA HOWE, the chief assistant and trusted friend of MRS. FAIRBANK. HISS HOWE is to do much of the addressing. She won't go West, after all.

"GENERAL ROBERT WOOD decided that he, too, must have a set of those 150,000 names and addresses and sent over boxes of blank cards tobe filled with those precious membership rolls. It's an open secret in the circles of the "dissolved" America First Committee that WOOD, too, is going to use those names and addresses for political purposes. The national offices of the America First Committee (Board of Trade Bldg.) are being liquidated but very slowly. My man says: "BOBBIE STUART doesn't want to give in or give up. He just doesn't."

"My man also tells me that GENERAL WOOD, and not CHARLES LINDBERGH, wrote LINDBERTH'S statement of "unity". Wy man heard this personally from MRS. FAIRBANK. It appears that LINDBERGH did not want to issue such a statement under any circumstances despite all the Pressure WOOD put on him on Monday the 8th. Finally, in near-desperation, WOOD himself wrote the statement and released it to the press as if coming from LINDBERGH although actually LINDBERGH had nothing to do with it. LINDBERGH wants to go ahead with the work of america First but under another name-that is, there should be a new organization of old members. He won't give the administration in Washington any satisfaction and does not care if Washington knows that he never recanted, that WOOD, not he, wrote and issued that statement for him. This checks with a confidential report I received from New York, where ED WEBSTER, a prominent America Firster, said: "LINDBERGH wants to carry on the fight against 'the Communists in Washington, and in a few months intends to come out openly for the organization.

Because WOOD presumed to issue that statement for LINDBERGH, and because generally LINDBERGH believes that WOOD and other America-First leaders mismanaged their compaign and missed many opportunities to make hay while their sun shone, LINDBERGH intends to create out of the America First timber an organization of his own and run it strictly by himself, with MRS. F.IRB.NK and others taking orders from him. Such is the opinion expressed in the America First circles in Chicago and elsewhere."

Following the dissolution of subject organization all meetings previously scheduled were called off and there have been no official meetings held since December 11, 1941.



furnished the following 676 report concerning this meeting of MC CORNICK, PATTERSON, LINDBERGH, and WOOD:

"This much-talked about but little-ascertained meeting took place in Chicage in the middle of March. The exact date is hard to establish, but, as one of my Trib contacts puts it, the four men met shortly after the news of Mac Arthur's escape to Australia was made known in this country. This would make it sometime between March 17 and 20.

JOE PATTERSON was passing through Chicago on his way from mawaii. LINDBERGH was in town in connection with his taking that job with Menry Ford. PATTERSON, LINDBERGH and MC CORMICK met in the latter's private office on the 24th floor of the Tribune building. Later, the three adjourned to the Chicago Club where GENERAL WOOD joined them.

"The meeting was extremely hush-hush, and nothing is known for certain just what happened in the course of it. However, one man (formerly a foreign correspondent of the Chicago Tribune and still on good terms with certain high executives of the Tribune) tells me the following:

"McCORMICK wanted LINDBERGH to issue a public statement white-washing the America First Committee as a patriotic organization of which its former members and leaders should not be ashamed, praising MC COMMICK and the Chicago Tribune as a patriotic man and a laudable institution, and, above all, saying a few good words about Senator BROOKS which might be used as LINDBERGH'S endorsement of BROOKS. But LINDBERGH refused to issue such a statement. He said to his host that it would be too obvious a maneuver, and that he would rather be useful in some other way.

MC CORMICK did not insist."

"Another man, presently employed by the Tribune in a responsible capacity, said to me that the meeting of the four personages was held to map out the future course of action of the ex-America First leadership. The appointment of MAC ARTHUR as supreme commander, just made public, was discussed by the four, who feel that MAC ARTHUR is their man and will do their bidding, although on what they base such an assumption is not known. We around the Trib office feel that MC CORMICK and his friends just smell' that MAC ARTHUR is their man, hence the terrific buildup. LIND-BERGH'S job with Ford was discussed at that meeting in connection with MAC ARTHUR'S escape and appointment.

and still another man said to me:

"The buildup of LINDBERGH as america's imminent savior was discussed at that meeting in Chicage. You see, by making 25 bembers a day LINDBERGH and FORD will be in a position to claim a super-service to the nation in her hour of trial. Gradually, a press will be built up for LINDBERGH, giving him rather than FORD (with Ford's complete agreement) most if not all the credit for those 25 bembers a day. That's what they discussed at the meeting."

advised that a meeting was held at the home of MRS. JANET AYER FAIRBANK in the early part of January 1942 and that it was discussed at this meeting, the possibility of using the membership lists of the Illinois and Chicago Chapters amounting to approximately 150,000 names for the purpose of distributing campaign literature in behalf of Senator Wayland BROOKS and Congressman STEPHEN A. Day. He advised that this mailing list was used in December and January and that campaign literature was mailed to the former members of

America First urging these persons to support BROOKS and DAY at the April Primary nominations. He further stated that it has been reported to him that the list will be used again in November of 1942 and that there is a definite feeling that former leaders of America First will come out with the formation of a political party under a different name but with same nucleus as subject organization, in the late summer of 1942.

advised that CHARLES B. GOODSPEED, President of the Buckeye Steel Casting Corporation and his secretary and friend, MRS. BRECKENRIDGE, both of whom are ardent America Firsters, had been intensively collecting money for the BROOKS campaign. Informant further advised that MRS. BRECKENRIDGE also acts as secretary to GENERAL THOMAS HAMMOND, formerly of the Mation Committee of subject organization, and that HAMMOND had been secretly behind this money collecting campaign. The informant advises that most of the persons contacted by MRS. BRECKENRIDGE and CHARLES B. GOODSPEED were former members of America First as taken from the alphabetical file in the possession of GENERAL HAMMOND. MRS. BRECKENRIDGE is also reported to have said that, when asked about the possibilities of future activity for subject organization, "We'll have something definite to work on in the campaign".

Prior to December 7, 1941, subject organization by its rapid growth and national publicity, attracted to it many radical groups who, for one reason or another, found in the America First program at least one of the purposes of their own group. Hemberships of some of these groups were urged by their own leaders to join America First.

advised that on several meetings of the German-American National Alliance, PAUL A. F. WARNHOLTZ, Director of Publicity, and WALTER SILGE, former president, had arged the members to join America First.

has furnished a list to reporting agent of 646 members of the German-American National Alliance who were found to be members of the America First as of November 29, 1941. Copies of this list are being prepared and will be forwarded to the Bureau when completed.

From an article in the American Mercury for January of 1942, the author, JOHN ROY CARLSON, under a story entitled "Inside the America First Movement" on Page 7, which article was written before Pearl Harbor, charges that America First, whether knowingly or not, had become the expression of the American Fascist movement and that though many of the leaders were sincere and honest isolationists, there nevertheless was no real attempt made to purge those who were in the movement who were not sincere and honest isolationists. CARLSON charged that there were astute, unnamed strategists operating behind the scenes and manipulating the central directive nucleus of the America First Committee. He also states that the America First Committee has political aspirations and that the owners, leaders and followers are outshouted, if not outnumbered.

In a sequel to this article one was published in The American Mercury for March 1942 by CARLSON under the heading "Our Fascist Enemies Within" on Page 306, which states that he had previously tried to differentiate between the honest isolationists and the hate-mongering elements acting as agents of foreign nations. From the article the following is quoted:

"Since the dissolution of the America First Committee, the fascist rabble has been obliged to return to its former status — that of an unorganized, rebellious mass movement without central leadership and without 'respectable' cover for its operations." At another place in the article, however, CARLSON states that he received a letter post marked December 29 which an ardent America Firster had written to a comrade across the continent as follows:

"For the time being we are in a state of quiescence, waiting for events to shape themselves. The trend of things already is less obscureYou can be sure that very few of those who were with us before have changed their minds — although they may be cautious for the present."

And another letter which he had received he set forth as follows:

"We have already arranged to resume weekly meetings. We have a lot of ideas, are not in any way terrified and will not pull our punches."

Investigation to date has failed to reveal that any new groups, have been started in the Chicago area by any of the former leaders of America First. There existed prior to Pearl Harbor several groups which are still active such as the Mothers Mobilize for America, Inc.", headed by LYRL CLARK Van HYNING and Mrs. GRACE KEEFE; "Patrick Henry Forum" run by MARTIN J. HIGGINS; "Citizens Committee to Keep America Out of Mar" changed to "Citizens Committee" following December 7. This committee is headed by WILLIAM IN CRACE and at one time WILLIAM REGNERY, AVERY BRUNDAGE and EARL SOUTHARD were officers; "Lease Lend to America" started by RAIPH I. BYERS; "Midwest Monetary Federation" headed by RAIPH FRANKLIN HELLING, JOSEPH MacWILLIAMS and WILLIAM OVERHOLSER and ALEXIS DOTHROWSKY; and the "Lincoln Park Branch of the America First" headed by ALFRED SENHIN and ORAL SINDS. These groups were active prior to December 7 and have remained active since the declaration of war. They have been reported variously as anti-Semetic, anti-administration and un-American.

Some of the persons above described took an active interest in America First prior to its dissolution and following war former mambers have

b3 ited in conjunction with full 60, Federal Lake of Criminal Procedure

attended these meetings. There is no indication that the responsible leaders of America First have given any support to these groups.

The above named individuals and groups have interchanged speakers and memberships and have become rather closely enmeshed in a so-called peace front. Inasmuch as there is no apparent connection between the responsible officials of subject organization and these groups, their activities are not being set forth in detail in this report.

Prior to September 1941 the Lincoln Park Branch, headed by E. T. KIEHL, as director and CARL SANDS, Vice-President and HENRY LARSON, Treasurer, was a regularly established branch of the recognized America First Committee.

Because of rational speeches and activities reported concerning this group, the Lincoln Park Branch by letter dated October 9, 1941 over the signature of CLAY JUDSCN, National Committee Member, was advised they no longer had authority to use the name "America First" or to hold meetings which appear to be under the auspices of America First. The activities of this group continued and a subsequent letter was written over the signature of T. S. HAMLOND and is set forth as follows:

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"Mr. E. H KIEHL Chicago, Ill.

My dear Mr.KIEHL

"Because of numerous complaints received regarding the activities of certain Chicago Chapters of the America First Committee, I sent, on the fifth of August, a letter to all suggesting procedure that might insure the effectiveness of the America First movement, and at the same time keep it above criticism and reproach.

"We continue to have complaints on the character of the meetings conducted by the Lincoln Park Chapter, of which you are Chairman. Because of this, we must ask that you hold no more meetings, using the name of the America First Committee. We ask that you return to the Chicago

Headquarters such stationery and supplies as have been furnished you, and your membership list.

"Please don't misunderstand me. This is in no way intended as an effort to control your activities. This is a free country and you can do as you please, but I must remind you that the America First Committee is incorporated, and those who wish to use its name must keep within the principles approved by it."

E. H. KIEHL was replaced by ALFRED W. BRUHN as chairman and the Lincoln Park Branch of the America First Committee took out a charter of incorporation in the State of Illinois on July 24, 1941. They have continued to hold meetings up to the present date which have been advertised as meetings of the Lincoln Park Chapter of the America First Committee, Inc.

At one meeting held on March 27, 1942 at Belmont Hall, JOSEPH E. Mac.ILLIAMS of the Midwest Monctary Federation discussed the formation of an American victory movement.

the following letter from the Lincoln Park Chapter of America First, Inc.:

"Dear Friend.

"We who worked in America First have a great responsibility. We have a deep underlying philosophy that perhaps can best be expressed in that phrase of Colonel LINDBERG'S, 'an independent American Destiny'. Our fight to prevent America's being involved in foreign war was but one of the great principles for which we were working.

"Deep down in our hearts each of us was hoping to see developed in America a new kind of leadership. We hoped that this leadership would seek to perfect America's economic self-sufficiency. We hoped for instance to see America develop a rubber supply somewhere in the western hemisphere that would assure us tires, regardless of European or Asiatic wars. We hoped to see developed here in the western hemisphere the low grade alloying ores that would

assure us steel for peace or war, despite the military adventures of foreign nations, or the while of international speculators centered in London. We hoped to see American internal economy completely insulated from the international financial manipulators. We hoped to see America protected from the international fold confidence men who have promoted wars and revolutions in Europe for hundreds of years.

"We hoped to see America's vast labor power, directed by our great technical and managerial skill, turned loose upon the tremendous natural wealth of this continent to the end that the century-old American dream of a 'decent home, security and education for all might be achieved. We know that we cannot forever be pra-occupied with Europe's and Asia's economic wars and still have the time and energy to solve America's own great problems.

"It is clear that we who were in America First had a larger purpose. The fight against participation in the oncoming war was but an incident in the fight for an 'independent American Destiny'.

"Our really great fight is to determine who will be the masters when peace comes. That will be the nature of the coming peace? Will the international-minded, the international gold shysters, the international manipulators, rule America in the coming peace or will America be ruled by Americans in the interest of the American people and of their welfare?

"The 'Union Now' crowd are already making plans for America to support the world. They propose that the American taxpayer be saddled with the cost of rebuilding the whole structure of international finance just as soon as peace comes.

"They have the effrontery and gall to tell you Americans that your standard of living must fall so that you can patch up the world internationalist structure during the cowing peace. In other words the living standard of Americans must go down to the standard of the Balkans or India or China.

"Look at your young son or daughter and decide if, basides taking on the tramendous burden of war taxes, you want them and your grandchildren to work and pay confiscatory taxes to the end of their lives, to support the schemes of the 'Union New' traitors.

"You may not have a right to maet and discuss the war freely, but

you have a clear, Constitutional and unassailable legal right to meet and discuss the shape and kind of peace that will follow this war.

"The Communists, The 'Union Now-ers', the internationalists are as busy as ants preparing plans for the peace. If we, the true American patriots, do not come forward with a program, if we do not organize promptly and effectively to assure ourselves the kind of peace we want, then the internationalists will win the peace by default. America will then be theirs for centuries!

"We ask you to help create an American Victory Hovement, that will assure us that the sacrifice made and the blood spilled in this war will not result in the loss of the dearly bought and inevitable peace to the dark forces of internationalism.

"We invite you to hear JOSEPH E. McWILLTAMS of the Midwest Monetary Federation discuss the formation of an 'American Victory Movement', on the night of Friday, March 27, 1942, at the Belmont Hall, 3205 N. Clark St., (8 P.M.),

"Mr. McWILLIAMS was born in Oklahoma on the Cheyenne-Arapahoe Indian Reservation. When he was six weeks old, his parents moved in a covered wagon to the Panhandle ranch country of Texas. His people had been pioneers for generations. They have fought in every war since and including the American Revolutionary War. At 37, Mr. McWILLIAMS is a veteran in the war now being waged in America to determine whether America is to have an 'independent destiny' or forever be the cat's paw of various international-minded groups and races. Mr. McWILLIAMS is one of the greatest crators in this country. You will hear one of the most inspiring addresses you have ever heard. You will be thrilled by this call to action!

"We urge you to be present (and to bring your friends) the night of Friday, March 27, at 8 P.M., at the Belmont Hall."

advised he was a former American Legion member and that he had no idea as to why this group sent him the letter, stating that he was approached sometime in November of 1941 and asked by a woman to come to these meetings but he declined at that time.

It has been reported by that the Lincoln Park Chapter of America First, Inc. has a membership of 9,000 persons

in Chicago.

advised on April 24, 1942, that ALFRED BRUHN, Chairman of the Lincoln Park Branch stated a mailing list of the combined organizations of the Citizens Committee; We the Mothers Mobilize for America; the former Christopher Columbus Chapter of America First, headed by PETER GREENFIELD; the Oak Street Chapter, headed by NORMAN SANDERS and the Rogers Park Chapter headed by GEORGE A. WELLBERG and two south side chapters of America First had been made available to him "for a good program when the time came". BRUHN further remarked that the above mentioned lists numbered approximately 50,000 of which We the Mothers Mobilize for America, Inc. provided 35,000 and the Christopher Columbus Chapter numbered 4,500. The two south side chapters numbered 14,000 and the Midwest Monetary Federation 15,000. He remarked that the membership list of the Midwest Monetary Federation duplicated the membership list of the Lincoln Park Chapter and the Christopher Columbus Chapter with approximately an addition of 100 persons whose names did not appear on any of the other organizations books. BRUHN stated the Joe McWILLIAMS following of the Christian Mobilizers was more than 50,000 in New York City; that the GERALD L. K. SMITH circulation of the Flag and the Cross numbered approximately 15,000 in the Chicago area and WILLIAM GRASS' Citizens Committee, which BRUHN was advised was predominate, had numbered about 3,000.

All of these organizations, BRUHN is reported to have said, duplicated the membership of each other so that persons on one mailing list also received mail and literature from the other groups.

BRUHN has indicated his desire to weld the remaining groups into one organization and he has said he could get the backing for a newspaper or a news letter which he intended calling "The Lindberg Beacon, the purpose of which would be to give news of the various peace organizations and their accomplishments. He said there were a number of well-to-do businessmen in Chicage who would contribute money to a paper of this type. He mentioned three such individuals as being

was said to have contributed to America First and is interested in contributing to other organizations who are still active.

BRUHN mentioned who was interested in an organization headed by MARGAPET RUSSELL known as the Joness White Army

and an individual named who formerly contributed to America First and who financially supported the Lincoln Park Chapter.

advised that ERUHN has indicated that "strong popular movement" which he has been endeavoring to get up, would coordinate all peace groups in Chicago each with a definite roll. He indicated fifteen of the old chapters of the America First have expressed themselves as willing to go on. He stated the purpose and aim of the peace groups would be "to form a third party" possibly under the help of the Lindberg Party which would advocate an impeachment of the President and for a new administration.

BRUHN further outlined the purposes as follows, "A work towards a negotiated peace by encouraging and stirring up a feeling of the people towards this end. To keep the people informed for a strong organized propaganda. Bring the money situation to the attention of the people and create the distrust of the money system, especially the Federal Reserve Bank, which, he is alleged to have said, is privately owned by a group of international bankers.

advised the planned organization of the peace groups by ERUHN has failed to materialize and at several of the meetings held by BRUHN less than 50 people have attended.

ALFRED WILLIAM BRUHN, 1710 North Rockwell Street, is described as follows:

Age	55
Height	5111"
Height	140
Hair	Gray
Eyes	Blus
Face	Thin

He is employed as the exposition manager of the American Health Food Association, 32 North State Street. ERUHN was born in Wittenberg, Wisconsin and has been closely associated with United States Senator GERALD P. NYE, with whom he has been corresponding.

NORMAN SAUNDERS, formerly a speaker for America First and listed on

the report of the Speakers Bureau as having addressed twenty-three meetings of the Chicago Chapterhas been reported as active with BRUHN and is endeavoring to form a peace group in Chicago. On April 11, 1942, he addressed the Patrick Henry Forum after he was introducted by MARTIN J. HIGGINS, Director of the Patrick Henry Forum as one of the chief lecturers and organizers for America First.

advised SAUNDERS was quiet spoken and careful in his remarks, but stated "the people have been inadequate by not demonstrating their inalienable rights in removing a President who has a long record of violations of the Constitution.

Further investigation will be conducted to ascertain if the membership lists of the former America First are being made available to any of the above named persons active in the peace front following the declaration of war.

Reference is made to the report of Special Agent made at New York City May 13, 1942 in instant case. Reference report sets forth the activities of HORACE J. HAASE of the Brooklyn Chapter, America First.

a mimeographed sheet dated March 9, 1942 which is set forth as follows:

"TO MY FRIENDS WHO WERE FORMERLY MEMBERS OF AMERICA FIRST

"It being impossible for me to write each of you a personal letter will you please accept in its place the enclosed mimeographed announcement of a new organization I hope you will join and support.

"We opposed the war because of what it would do to our beloved country. We must work for PEACE new in order that war and the results of war will not fulfil our predictions.

#PLEASE SEND US THE NAMES OF OTHERS WHO ARE OR MIGHT BE INTERESTED. Will you organize in your neighborhood? Can you suggest someone who might?

*Something about the temporary chairman of AMERICANS FOR PEACE

"HORACE J. HAASE was born in Brooklyn, N.Y. of American parents on Jan. 4th, 1909. He has spent the last seven years studying America's economic and social problems. He is the author of THE ECONOMIC DEMOCRACY and is now work-

ing on a 700 page book laying down the basis for a just and lasting peace. He taught economics for several years, was Director of a School and has lectured on subjects ranging from Religion to politics. He treats all these things from the Economic angle.

"When THE AMERICA FIRST COMMITTEE Was organized he joined the New York Chapter and lectured or soap-boxed, as opportunity offered, until the Committee was disbanded on Dec. 12th. For the last four months he was Chairman of the Speakers Bureau of the Brooklyn Chapter.

"He has now resigned as associate editor of a New Jersey newspaper . in order to organize a committee with PEACE AS ITS FIRST OBJECTIVE. He has done so because he found that most other peace organizations have other objectives which they put first.

"Fellow American:

"Whether you WISH IT or NOT -- your tax-contributions are financing world-wide death and destruction. What are you doing for PEACE and FREEDOM?

"A few short months ago many of us were laboring to keep peace and to promote freedom. We were deeply and sincerely concerned about the future of our country. We knew that the entry of our country into the war would mean the sacrifice of American lives all over the world, the lowering of our standard of living, the building up of a debt that would destroy our economic freedom and the impoverishment of future generations. We knew that during the war the Burcaucrats and Communists in Washington would make us more nearly totalitarian and we knew that the only reward we would get out of victory would be the privilege of upholding the British Empire and of forcing our joint domination upon the world 'for a hundred years' (to quote Mr. KNOX). For these reasons we opposed the war at every opportunity throughout the land. BUT IF THESE THINGS WERE TRUE THEN WHEN we were talking of POTENTIAL dangers, THEY ARE EVEN TRUER TO-DAY WHEN THESE SAME DANGERS ARE UPON US.

"Such being the case, if our concern is really for America, we have a duty to perform — a duty to ourselves, to our children and to coming generations. That duty is to do all we can to put an end to this threat to American Democracy — to advocate the EARLIEST POSSIBLE JUST PEACE. Such a peace is the

only hope for preserving our way of life.

"Some of us, in the days before Pearl Harbor, advocated a negotiated peace -- a peace in which both sides would have a say and BOTH SIDES would have to make concessions. We declared that only such a peace could hope to last. IF THAT WAS TRUE THEN, IT IS JUST AS TRUE NOW. The only possible lasting peace is one in which neither side forces its will upon the other -- a peace without victory. Such is the peace plan we must advocate with all our power and strength. And we must do it NO...

"Before the war our peace program was unpopular. It still is, but I firmly believe that THE MAJORITY OF AMERICANS STILL WANT A JUST PEACE and OPPOSE WORLD DOMINATION EITHER BY BRITAIN, THE UNITED STATES OR BOTH.

"THESE ARE THE TIMES when REAL PATRIOTIC AMERICANS look to the WELFARE OF THEIR COUNTRY and not to the popularity of their cause. WE DID NOT LACK COURAGE OR CANDOR BEFORE. WE MUST NOT LACK THEM NOW -- WE MUST NOT FAIL AMERICA--WE MUST NOT FAIL OURSELVES-- WE MUST NOT FAIL TRUTH AND JUSTICE. 'Let us have that right makes might and in that faith let us dare to do our duty as we understand it', (LINCOLN)

"DO SOMETHING FOR PEACE TO-DAY. DO IT NOW JOIN, AMERICANS FOR PEACE and send your contribution to help mail millions of these letters all over the country. Let 'UNITY FOR PELCE' be our slogan. United we can win.

"AMERICANS FOR PEACE Room 203, 1165 Bway, N.Y.C. H. J. HAASE, Act. Exec. Chn."

advised HORACE J.

HAASE had written to Senator GERAID P. NYE and that in answer to this communication HALSE received the following letter from GERALD P. NYE:

"Of course if you are coming this way I shall want to see you, and when you get here you need only to telephone me and let me know of your presence whereon we can fix a time that would be convenient for a good visit.

"I shared with you that concern expressed tencerning the folding up of the America First Committee, but the more I weigh the matter the more I come

to believe that it was wise to pursue the course that was pursued. But that does not right off the desperate need that will prevail for such a committee as it to function again, and I am satisfied that at the ripe time there can be a rebirth that will be in the full and complete interest of America. Increasing are the challenges to Americans as relates to the inefficient conduct of the war, the issue of civilian defense, the planning for the future, and especially the Union Now challenge which is growing.

"In some respects this Union Now play is not short of high treason, and growing sentiment is in evidence. What we need right now is patience lest we move too soon and before there is sufficient understanding with a loyal opposition organization through the country. But we can talk more about this when I see you."

Concerning this communication addressed to H. J. HAASE, advised the person who had furnished him the letter had sent along with it the following observations, "In my opinion this is a most significant document. It reaffirms in our minds the fear that the top leaders of the old America First Committee never sincerely liquidated the committee. Their intention was to permit it to lie domant until the 'proper time'. H. J. HAASE is a nickle and dime stumble bur and at the same time is a member of many small group leaders from which can be recreated the old National American Committee. For this reason NYE is very nice to him in this letter."

advised that

, had furnished the following information concerning the organization, "Gifts For our Boys":

"This organization, which has its office at 150 Broadway and its 'headquarters for gifts' in Room 11M at the Plaza Hotel, 5th Ave. and 58th St., N.Y.C., is an offspring of the America First Committee. The wealthier fascist elements formerly active in the America First Committee, metropolitan area, are tied up with this group. Its purpose, you will note from the annexed photostats, is to raise money to be given to men in our armed forces so that they may, at times of furlough, make trips home that they otherwise could not afford, etc. At least, that is its estensible purpose. However, the personalities active in the group, and statements by the participants that 'this is a darned clever way to keep the America First Committee organized and intact, so that when the time

comes all will be in readiness to act', reveal the true reasons for the creation of the organization. Mr. and Mrs. NORMAN HOLMES apparently were the sponsors of this 'tea' meeting. They also attended the now infamous Elizabeth Dilling dinner at 77 Park Ave., last summer.

"Others present were Mr. and Mrs. CHARLES WIXDORFF (America First & Women United)

Mrs. THELMA HERRICK (Women United)

JOHN BURKE (America First speaker)

SCOVILLE HABLIN (America First speaker)

Mrs. IDEA COOPER(Women United - Representative of Eliz. Dilling)

Lirs. LESTER LLEN (formerly American Nationalist Party and close to LcWILLIALS)

Irs. McCOY
Irs. E. BENNETT (America First)

"This 'tea' meeting was arranged in a hurry because the elements active in it were anxious to sabotage the efforts of the Ed FLYNN - PALLER crowd of America Firsters who are reported to be organizing a corrected of their own. Of course, it is too early in the game to be able to delineate clearly the forces at work. This GOB group undoubtedly consists of the rotten part of the old AFC. If it does nothing else, it will probably succeed in contacting army and navy men and eventually will try to propagandize the boys while assisting them."

It was indicated that the had considerable information be pertaining to the activities of former leaders of subject organization and that he would be cooperative and furnish them to this Bureau.

furnished a clipping from the Jewish Transcript published at Seattle, Washington, dated January 9, 1942 under the headline "America First Mailing Lists being used by Our Enemies." The clipping is not being set out in full but contains the charge that the Non-Sectarian, anti-Nazi League had charged that mailing lists of the recently dissolved America First are still being used by some individuals and groups to lay a ground work for future guerrilla conflict on the propaganda front in America. The Sectarian League was indicated to be in possession of copies of a Christmas greating folder printed with the signature of the Loyal Copperheads of America, headed by a former active America First worker. The folder was sent during the first

few days of December as a Christmas greeting to former active members of the America First Committee in New York and was revealed that persons receiving the folder had been active in America First although never had been active in the Copperheads League.

further furnished a copy of a confidential report which he had received from New York City pertaining to the Brooklyn Chapter of America First:

"HORACE J. HAASE took over (very much unofficially) the forces of the dissolved Brooklyn chapter of America First, replacing WILLIAM LEONARD who resigned even before the national executive committee of AF disbanded the entire organization. HAASE is an amateur economist who wrote a book called The Economic Democracy (Tremaine & Company). He belongs to the radical Fascist wing of America First. His line, now expressed only privately, is in favor of a revolution. 'This is not our war,' he says, 'Impeach the President.' One of his closest friends in the Brooklyn America-First group is THURMAN BLACKWOOD, a thoroughly seditious young man who belongs to several secret organizations.

"According to HAASE, he (HAASE) had a talk with ED WEBSTER of the New York America-First crowd, and WEBSTER had said to him: 'HERBERT HOOVER' has always been a close collaborator of America First and has advised me (WEBSTER) to keep the organization (AF) inactive for a while and to come out with a new program later on.' WEBSTER said further: 'LINDBERGH also wants to carry on the fight against "the Communists in Washington,'" and in a few months intends to come out openly for the organization.'

"HALSE also tells his friends that he is in touch with HOOVER'S assistants on HOOVER'S Relief Committee, and they tell him that HOOVER and they will help the AF forces to keep affoat because 'there is so much dirt in Washington, and the Administration is fighting them (HOOVER men) with such vicious methods.'

"Incidentally, HAASE is the man who went to the parents of victims of the Reuben James and got them to sign statements that they did not 'intend that their sons should die in President Roosevelt's private war on convoy duty to the English.'

"It is the same HAASE who quite recently boasted of having 'a girl

friend working in the Ministry for British War Transfers as a shipping clerk and she can give us important information.

"There are a number in the Brooklyn America-First gang who have promised HAASE to carry on their 'patriotic' work. Among those are Mrs. EVA POR TER, Mrs. HALLTE OLSEN, who is very Irish, very anti-ROOSEVELT and anti-British, THURMAN BLACKWOOD, and others. Captain GEORGE SMITH made a point of telephoning HAASE that he would be glad to help his pal (HAASE).

"The Brooklyn chapter of AF had a membership list of 80,000. No one seems to know what happened to that list after LEONARD pulled out. HAASE has been looking for the list, and may have found at least part of it."

advised he had been informed the Wakefield Chapter of the North Brenx Unit of the America First Committee, New York City was still meeting regularly as of February 6, 1942. It was reported that meetings were held in the homes of certain of the members. He advised he had no further information pertaining to the activities of the former chapters of the America First Committee in New York City but that he was aware of the organization known as Gifts for our Boys and Salute our Men. He advised should any information come to him concerning these groups which he stated grew out of America First, he would furnish it to this office.

New York City to the effect that whom he described as one of the more active appearers in the Metropolitah area, had been notifying friends in the ranks of the America First Committee that the America First groups in New Jersey are new erganizing very strongly, particularly in Newark.

This communication dated January 27, 1942, further remarked that Mrs. CARROLL, who led the Jersey City Chapter of the America First Committee, is still organizing and that apparently the Jersey groups are looking for a large national group with which to merge.

670

UNDEVELOPED LEADS

The New York Field Division

AT NEW YORK CITY

Will interview

formation in his possession regarding the activities of the former leaders of America First.

Will interview

and will ascertain other information in his possession regarding the activities of subject or-

Will interview

The Washington Field Division

ganization.

AT WASHINGTON, D.C.

Will interview

The Chicago Field Division

AT CHICAGO, ILLINOIS

620

as listed in the body of the above report to ascertain the future activities of those individuals and groups who reportedly have had access to membership lists of local chapters of America First and who are reported as endeavoring to weld those groups and others into the se-called peace front.

Will continue to develop information pertaining to the use of the membership lists and mailing lists of the America First Chapter by the former leaders of America First for political or other purposes.

PENDING

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION FOIPA DELETED PAGE INFORMATION SHEET

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

CRIGIN CHICAGO, ILLINOIS . FILE # 100-3325

Made at Date Made | Period Report made by 67C

SAN FRANCISCO, CALIF. 5/26/42 | 5/14,19-22/42 | Character

Title Character

INTERNAL SECURITY (G)

SYNOPSIS

Summary of present war organization and activities of America First Committee, Northern California District, set out. All activities reported to have ceased since United States entered war in December. No evidence uncovered relating to any underground activities of organization since that time. Meeting held by one of largest San Francisco chapters of organization on 12/9/41. Mombors voted to "remain dormant for the duration", but not to dissolve entirely. No activity in district organization since

January, 1942. Approximately two thousand membership application cards obtained relating to membership of San Francisco chapter of organization. Kany Germans prominent in German activities in San Francisco were among those having filled out application cards.

- P -

REFERENCE:

Bureau letter to all field offices, dated March 16, 1942.

DETAILS: AT SAN FRANCISCO, CALIFORNIA

ORGANIZATION

The files of the office of Secretary of State of California contained

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the following information concerning the America First Committee of Northern California, Inc., incorporation number 187913, filed June 3, 1941.

The purposes for which this corporation was formed were stated as follows:

- (A) To stimulate and encourage the National Defense in the United States of America so that it shall be so strong that no foreign power or combination of powers can successfully invade it.
- (B) To advocate a policy on the part of the United States of keeping out of foreign wars and of avoiding alliances, entanglements or acts which are apt to embroil us in foreign wars.
- (C) To advocate the policy of extending democracy, constitutional government and personal freedom throughout the world, by preserving and promoting in our country peace, representative government, allegiance to our constitution, and personal freedom.
- (D) To stimulate, encourage, and assist the study, analysis, conference and discussion of national issues by all citizens.
- (E) To exercise such other powers as may be permitted under authority of Title XII, Part IV, Division First of the Civil Code of the State of California and under authority of the laws of the State of California not inconsistent therewith.
- (F) This corporation is organized as a non-profit concern that does not contemplate pocuniary gain or profit to the members thereof.

The principal office for the transaction of the business of this corporation was to be located in the City and County of San Francisco.

Memborship in the corporation shall be regulated by by-laws. Unless otherwise provided by the by-laws, membership shall be open to patriotic American citizens who are loyal to our constitutional form of government and who are in agreement with the principles of this corporation.

No person shall be eligible to membership unless he or she shall sign a membership card, nor unless he or she shall comply with such of the by-laws regulating membership as may be prescribed.

Neither the officers, directors or members of this corporation shall have the power to lovy assessments on the members ner shall any of the officers, directors or members be personally liable for any of the debts, liabilities or obligations of the corporation.

The corporation shall have the power to create chapters in various communities, to provide rules and regulations governing the functions of such chapters, to specify the territory within the jurisdiction of each chapter, and to prescribe

rules and regulations whereunder the members of the corporation within the territory of such chapters may elect officers, hold meetings, and function within the territory as a chapter of this corporation.

Subject to such regulations as may be set forth in the by-laws, the directors shall have the power to provide for meeting of the members, and to provide for conventions of delegates thereto from various chapters of the corporation.

The Board of Directors shall have the power by a two-thirds vote to expel any person from membership in the corporation. Unless otherwise stated in the By-laws, three directors shall be a quorum.

The number of directors of this corporation shall be five, but the directors shall have the authority to increase or decrease the number of directors by resolution of the Beard, except that in no event shall the number of Directors be less than three.

The names and address of the persons who are appointed to act as the first directors of this corporation are: JOHN J. TAHENY, FRANK T. MCGRATH, WILLIAM H. HARRISON, ZOA F. CAMP, ANNETTE VOSTI, all of San Francisco, California.

CHAPTERS OF THE AMERICA FIRST COLDITIES IN THE NORTHERN CALLFORNL. DISTRICT

The following information concerning the Chapters of the America First Committee of the Northern California district, was taken from the November 15, 1941, issue of "The Horald", a weekly newspaper which was formorly published by the Northern California District of the America First Committee.

Abroham Lincoln Chapter, San Francisco HERBERT PETERSON, Chairman
PAUL NAMI, vice Chairman
MARCARET DASEY, Socretary
This chapter not at the Shasta Hall, Native Sons Building,
414 Mason Street, San Francisco.

William Paca Chapter, San Francisco HENEDICT V. DE HELLIS, Chairman
JULIA HESOZZI, Socretary
HIRANOR SUBTROPICO, Acting treasurer
This chapter met at the Fugazi Hall, 678 Green Street, San Francisco.

Bonjamin Franklin Chapter, San Francisco - FRANK T. McCRATH, Chairman JASON SCROON, Vice Chairman MARCARET HOCAN, Secretary Mrs. CEORGE SUSH, Treasurer This chapter met at 309-4th Avenue, San Francisco.

Charles A. Lindborgh Chapter, Son Francisco -

GEORGE KINE, Chairman

Mrs. A. E. IAU, Vice Chairman

Mrs. L. L. MORRISON, Secretary

Mrs. K. T. LUIDE, Treasuror

This chapter met at 1738 - 9th Avenue, San Francisco.

Lafayette Chapter, San Francisco-Mrs. RUSSO, Sacretary

George Washington Chapter, Stn Francisco JAMES FLYNN, Chairman
Mrs. M. SMITH, Vice Chairman
Mrc. MERTLEY, Treasurer
This chapter met in the Irish-American Hall, 16th and Valencia
Streets, San Francisco.

Burton K. Wheeler Chapter, San Francisco - HEIRT Vicilian, Secretary

Oakland Chapter, 381-17th Street, Oakland GUY IT. WRIGHT, Chairman
GEORGE T. LOHER, Vice Chairman
This chapter met at the Hotel Oakland, Oakland, California.

Berkeley Chapter, 2123 Center Street, Berkeley DONAID S. Mackay, Chairman
P. W. ALLOTON, Vice Chairman
Mrs. Mrs. H. C. HAYES, Secretary
JOSEPH RERNAL, Treasurer

Stockton Chapter, Stockton F. B. FEIGHNER, Chairman
ERNEST GUYLE, Vice Chairman
LILLIAN THEUERKAUFF, Secretary
W. L. THEUERKAUFF, Treasurer and manager of headquarters
This chapter mot at 410 East Herket Street, Stockton.

The most active individuals in the Northern California District organization are listed as follows:

Mr. JOHN TAHENY, 625 Market Street, San Francisco. Mr. TAHENY is a San Francisco lawyor and is also president of the United Irish Societies of San Francisco. Mr. TAHENY was one of the original directors of the district organization and acted as chairman of the Board of Directors.

Mr. FRANK T. Nockath, Hearst Building, San Francisco. McCRATH, a San Francisco lawyor, was vice chairman of the Board of Directors and was also chairman of the Benjamin Franklin Chapter of the committee in San Francisco.

WILLIAM H. HARRISCH, member of the Board of Directors.

ZOA F. CAIP, member of the Board of Directors.

ANNETTE VOSTI, member of the Board of Directors and secretary of the district organization.

In August, 1941, RALLUND B. WHILITZER, a member of the legal firm of DAVIS, SKAGGS and Company, took active leave from the duties of that firm to become an Executive Secretary of the Northern California District of the America First Committee.

Also active in the district organization was a Mrs. TERRANCE BOYLE. An item in the Herald of October 16, 1941, stated "Mrs. BOYLE was one of the most enthusiastic and consistent volunteer workers for the America First Committee. Mrs. BOYLE is a sister of FRANK T. MCGRATH, Chairman of the Franklin Chapter."

SALUEL L. BROGDEN was the Director of Organization for the northern district of California of the Committee until May 27, 1941, at which time he was asked to resign.

In August, 1941, BROGDEN bocano Colifornia State Chairman of the "Citizens No Foreign War Coalition" organization. When BROGDEN left the America Tirst Committee, he took with him one GEORGE T. BUKER who had fermerly assisted him in America First.

He was also a frequent speaker at mostings of the German-American Bund in 1999 and 1940.

Other individuals who were active in the Northern California District organization were Dr. HUCH R. PARKINSON, former leader of the Silver Shirts in San Francisco; Hr. H. L. KIUTE, prominently identified with German activities in San Francisco, and Mrs. SADIE J. DOYLE,

Hest prominent members who worked in the Oakland, California, area of the America First Committee are:

GUY M. VRIGHT, Chairman of the Dakland Chapter, preprietor of WRIGHT's Dry Cleaning and Laundry Service, 537 Athel Avenue, Oakland. WRIGHT also speke at mass meetings of the San Francisco and Borkeley Chapters of the organization.

GEORGE T. LOUER, Vice Chairman of the Oakland Chapter, who is connected with the Acacia Mutual Life Insurance Company, Cakland. LOUER has been reported to this office as a Nazi propagandist and was reported to have made the

following statement relative to selective service in the United States: "If you got into the army the thing for you to do is revolt, then there wen't be any army." LOHER also made the statement, relative to President ROCKEVELT prior to one of the president's speeches, "Well, what is the damn fool going to talk about tonight?" His wife replied, "What is the difference? Lindbergh will be on later." LOHER was also reported as being a draft ovader in World War I.

ACTIVITIES

The America First Committee of Northern California published a wockly newspaper entirled "The Herald." A Lr. LORRIN L. HORRISON was editor, and Hrs. THOMAS B. DOYLE was associate editor. This paper was published at 507 Mason Street, San Francisco. There is no evidence of this newspaper being distributed since the United States entered the war in December, 1941.

Various mass meetings were held at San Francisco and Oakland. Following is the list of the prominent speakers who took part: SENATOR D. WORTH CLARK, CHARLES A. LINDHERCH, Senator BURTON K. WHEELER, KATHLEEN NORRIS, JOHN J. TUHENY, Dr. DONALD S. MacKey, Professor of philosophy, University of California, who is also chairman of the Berkeley Chapter of the America First Committee, and Senator RUSH D. HOLT.

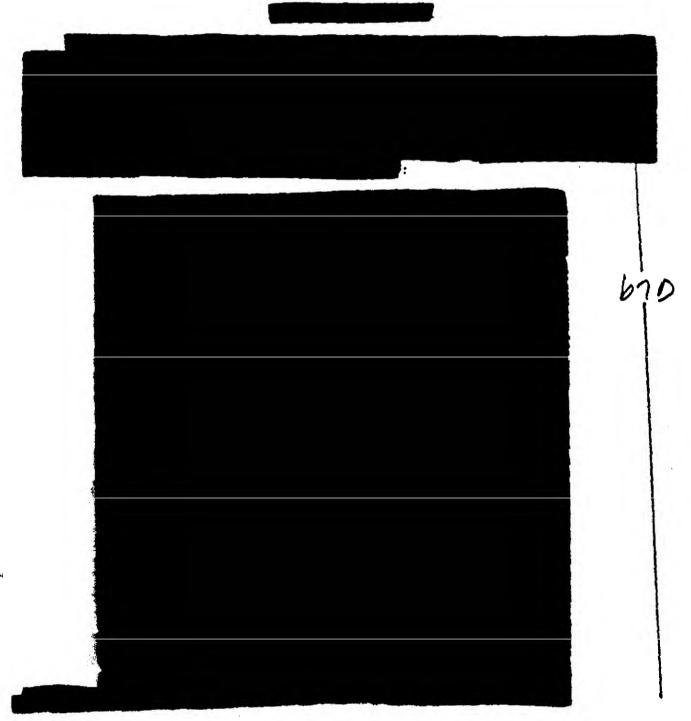
NAZI-FASCIST INFILMATION II: THE AMERICA FIRST COMMITTEE

As was stated above in the report, several prominent "American-Fascists" were active in the organization. These were

The chapter known as the William Paca Chapter, which mot in the North Beach district of San Francisco, was composed almost entirely of Italian members. The membership of this chapter numbered over two hundred. Information was received from that evidence of Italian Fascist infiltration into the interior First Committee has been established at the William Paca Chapter and the Burton K. Wheeler Chapter, San Francisco. Chapters prodominantly Italian have been addressed by individuals prominent in the Italian-American colony in San Francisco. RENZO TURCO was a frequent speaker and was reported to be a leading figure at a ball which was held under the auspices of the San Jose Chapter of the Italian War Veterans. TURCO was also reported to be a montor of the Order of Sans of Italy and to have attended a bund meeting on May 30, 1938.

Shortly after the outbroak of war in December, 1941, approximately two thousand application cards for membership in the America First Committee were obtained by this effice from the first committee was made of these application cards and in sorting them out it was ascertained that 682

individuals who had made application had Garman names. In breaking down these 682 names, it was determined that seventy of them are subjects of Internal Security investigations conducted by the San Francisco office. There application cards were not dated, but it is apparent that the applications were made prior to the time that SARVEL L. EROCDEN, who was Regional Director of the organization, left the America First Committee in the latter part of May, 1941.



One of the largest centributors to the America First Committee in San Franfurnished this cisco was a 1 office with a photostatic copy of a letter dated April 8, 1941, from to Mr. S. L. BROGLEN, Director of Organization. The letter is as follows: "The time is short, the need of funds is probably great and urgent - therefore I am enclosing a personal check of in response to your letter of April 2nd towards the specific needs mentioned in your letter. The mass meeting I thought encouraging to a cause that has such an uphill strugglo. Signed, Yours truly, Information was also received that **■**submitted at a subsequent date. On Scotember 17, 1941, advised that he had received information from a reliable source a San Francisco vho is that gives a check company, and who in turn gives it to each month to SAINEL BROGDEN of the Arcrica First Committee.

ACTIVITIES SINCE DECEMER 7, 1941

The following information was received from the following on March 28, 1942: "Answering your inquiry as to underground activity of America First groups and leaders since Pourl Harbor, I submit the following information which is the last report I have had regarding the America First Committee.

"On December 10, 1941, Mrs. GEORGE BUSH, active in America First, called at the "No Foreign War Coalition" headquarters and announced that the meeting of the America First Executive Committee had been called off but that the Benjamin Franklin Chapter of America First had met Tuesday night, December 9, 1941, with about forty members present. FRANK McCRATH, Chairman of that chapter, asked that the members take a standing vote on their desires as to future activity. The three alternative policies on which the membership was asked to base its future were: (1) to dissolve entirely; this was voted down; (2) to support the war against Japan but otherwise object to war against other foreign nations; only one-third of the membership supported this plan; (3) to remain dormant for the duration; two-thirds voted yes.

"MCCRATH then suggested that the officers of the chapter meet once a month or so and that any of the members who wished to join them at lunch or dinner in a purely social way" might also attend. It was pointed out that this would have to be done in a private fashion and not as an organization. McCRATH said further that while the members could not carry on and work as an organization, they could still, as individuals, express their opinions on the progress of world affairs and better keep in touch with affairs. This was agreed upon, all of these present being favorable to plan."

was contacted subsequent to this time but was unable to furnish any more information concerning any activities of the America First Committee.

who formerly reported activities regarding the America First in the San Francisco area, advised that no information had come to him that the America First was engaged in any activity since the organization closed in December.

Various individuals who had in the past reported receiving America First literature were contacted, but all advised that they had requived no literature from the organization since December 7, 1941.

San Francisco, who resigned from the America First group about August, 1941, was contacted by the writer. had fermerly reported to this office activities in the William Paca Chapter of the organization. She advised that to her knewlodge the America First Committee had held a mooting in one of the hotels in San Francisco, which was in the form of a social. At this time a vote was taken as to future activities of the group and the vote resulted in "remaining demant for the duration and ceasing all activity at the present but not disbanding entirely."

- PENDING -

- UNDEVELOPED IEADS -

SAN FRANCISCO FIELD DIVISION

Groups.

AT SIN FRINCISCO, CALIFORNIA

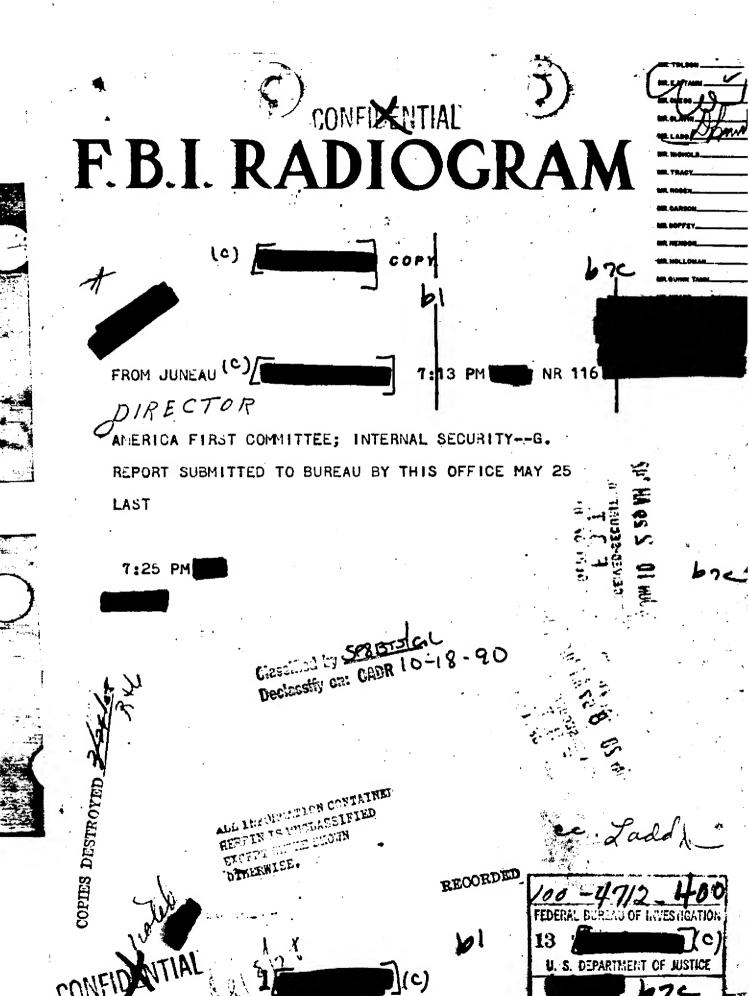
relative to any activities of the America First

Will report any activities coming to the attention of the San Francisco office from any other source.

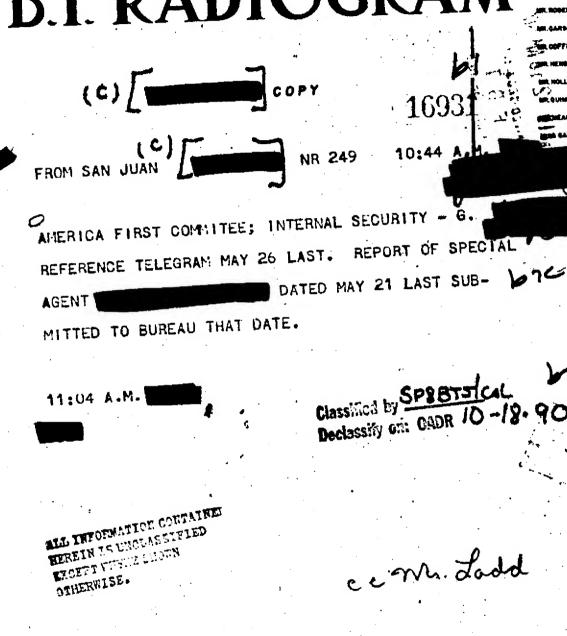
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION FOIPA DELETED PAGE INFORMATION SHEET

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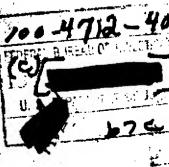
XXXXXXXX XXXXXXXX JUN 2 1942 F10-18-90 FY SP8BT3/Col 8-10 PM 6-2-42 BI EL PASO DIRECTOR HEAR. CAMERICA FIRST COMMITTEE, INTERNAL SECURITY- G. TWENTY SIXTH, NINETEEN FORTY TWO, TO DATE NO INDICATION THIS COMMITTEE ACTIVE DISCREET INVESTIGATION PRESENTLY OPERATING IN EL PASO TERRITORY. BEING CONDUCTED AND THE RESULTS WILL BE IMMEDIATELY FORWARDED TO THE BUREAU AMSD UPON COMPLETION. BRYCE New 11: 10P1. END A AND H 10-14 PM OK FBI WA COPIES DESTROYED RECORDED JUN 3 1942 U. S. DEPARTMENT OF COMPLE OPYINFILE



CONFIDENTIAL F.B.I. RADIOGRAM



Declassify on: GADR 10 -18. 90



FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

FILE NO. 100-770 LAT CHICAGO, ILLINOIS ORT MADE BY **レフ**こ 5/19/42 5/21/42 DOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS INTERNAL SECURITY -G AMERICA FIRST COMMITTEE - hranch, AMERICA FIRST COMMITTEE, was organised in February livel and land offices at \$52 Descushire Street, loston, Massachusetts. This organization the present time is no longer existing, having closed its office immediately after 12/7/41. The membership and personnel of the executive equalities of the Boston branch is set out herein, together with a summary of its general activities; also reported herein is a list of the contributors of One Bundred (100,00) Dollars AT Hien. 16-11-90 3030000 DI QIYSTELOG /COL BUREAU teletype to all Special Agents in Charge dated 5/11/42. Instant report was prepared from review of various material in the files of the Boston Field Office. HEW YORK CHAPTER The New York Herald-Tribune dated January 28, 1941 reflects that the New York effice of the imerica First Committee was epened January 27, 1941 at 49 East 53rd Street, New York City. The personnel of the New York Chapter is as follows: JOHN T. FLIEN, Executive Chairman, Economist and Writer; MRS. GRIHAM B. BLAIME; DOROTHY DUMBAR BROWLEY, Writer: MRS. W. SHIPPER DAVIS, Wife of a partner in MAIR B. WILLIAMS COMPANY, Brokers; DARIEL A. LIEDLEY, Broker; RECURDE MAY 29/942

boc

HICAGO

Mrs. SETE MILLIKEN

AMOS R. E. PINCHOT, Lawyer and Publicist

OCLOHEL ALIAN POPE, President, First Boston Corporation

MISS DORIS FIREDING REID, Investment Banker

PROF. EDWARD H. REISHER, Professor at Teachers' College, Columbia U.

ARCHIBALD D. ROOSEVELT, Son of President THEODORE ROOSEVELT

COLONEL THEODORE ROOSEVELT, Son of President THEODORE ROOSEVELT

H. DUDLEY SWIM, Vice President, National Investors Corp.

LOUIS F.: TIMMERMAN, Banker

ALAN VALENTINE, President of the University of Rochester;

Executive Director of the National Committee of
Democrats for WILLKIE during 1940 campaigne

EDWIN S. WEBSTER, JR.

MATIONAL CONNITTEE

The New York Herald-Tribune of Jamuary 28, 1941 quotes a statement of the America First Committee, announcing the opening of the New York office as follows:

THE DECISION MUST BE MADE NOW
---TOMORROW MAY BE TOO LATE!

THE AMERICA FIRST COMMITTEE WANTS TO BAVE PREEDOM AND DEMOCRACY IN AMERICA.

AMERICA FIRST stands for an impregnable national defense. It is opposed to going into the European war WITH or WITHOUT a declaration of ware. We heartily approve of all possible aid to Britain as allowed by the JOHNBOW and MEUTRALITY ACTS; but we oppose being eased into the ware

AMERICA FIRST, THEREFORE, is opposed to the WAR DICTATORSHIP BILL H.R. 1776 because this bill will take out of the hands of the people and Congrethe decision of going into or staying out of the war. It will be that decision in the hands of one mane

YOU ARE NOT HELPLESS-

- 1. WRITE, TELEPHONE OR TELEGRAPH TODAY TO THE PRESIDENT, YOUR TWO SENATO! YOUR CONGRESSMAN PROTECTING AGAINST THE WAR DICTATORSHIP BILL H.R. 1776
 AND AGAINST SENDING AMERICAN SHIPS INTO THE WAR ZONES.
- 2. Help organise chapters of the AMERICA FIRST COMMITTEE in your town or meighborhood. Apply to MEW YORK HEADQUARTERS FOR IMPORMATION.
- 5. FILL in the coupon below-mail it to the AMERICA FIRST COMMITTEE: There are no dues. JOIN the AMERICA FIRST COMMITTEE and swell the growin army of Americans who have faith in America.

MATIONAL COMMITTEE

The New York Herald-Tribune of January 28, 1941 also reflects the personnel of the National Committee of this organisation as follows:

"GENERAL ROBERT E. WOOD, Acting Chairman

DR. A. J. CARLSON
WILLIAM R. CASTLE
MRS. BEHNETT CHAMP CLARE
IRVIN S. COBB
JANET AYER PAIRBANK
JOHN T. FLYNN
BISHOP WILBUR E. HAMMAKER
GEN. THOMAS HAMMOND
JAY C. HORMEL
GEN. HUGH S. JOHNSON
CLAY JUDSON
FLORENCE P. KAHN
KATHRYN LEWIS

ALICE ROOSEVELT LANGWORTH
PRANK O. LOWDEN
MANFORD IN CHIDER
THOMAS E. MCCARTER
RAY MCKAIG
STERLING MORTON
AMOS R. E. PINCHOT
WILLIAM H. REGNERY
EDWARD I. RYERSON, JR.
LOUIS J. TABER,
MRS. BURTON E. WHEELER
DR. GEORGE H. WHIPPLE
MAJOR ALFORD J. WILLIAMS"

The same source reproduced the application for membership in this organization as follows:

7447

DONORS

The New York Herald-Tribune of March 12, 1941 reported that the AMERICA FIRST COMMITTEE made public in Chicago on March 11 the names of approximately two-thirds of its contributors who donated One Hundred (\$100,00) Dollars or more to this Committee. The total donation list amounted to \$118,906.21.

The report reflects that the names of forty-five contributors were withheld because they had notified the America First Committee that they objected to the publication of their names.

This report went on to state that contributions to the Committee as of February 20, 1941 numbered 12,342 contributions.

Of interest is a comparative statement of contributions received by instant organization as compared with the "No Foreign War Committee" which was organized by VERNE M RSHALL, part owner of the Cedar Rapids, Iowa Gazette, and the committee to Defend America by Aiding the Alliese This statement is being quoted as follows:

"DONATIONS TO THREE COMMITTEES

Total contributions	324,459.39 14,619 681 \$22.20	America Editor First As of Feb. 20 As \$118,906.21 \$2,843 \$114 \$9.68	
**Excluding VERNE MAREHALL'S contribut	tion"		

These contributors as reported in the New York Herald-Tribune as March 12, 1941 are as follows:
MENRY BABSON, Chicago

W. O. BARTHEL CANDY manufacturer of Chi

OTTO C. BEICH, candy manufacturer of Chicago and Bloomington, Illa JOHN W. [BLODGETT, Grand Rapids, Mich., lumberman and banker

AYRES BOAL, Winnetka, Ill., real estate

JOHN BURNHAM, Chicago, Lawyer

ROBERT BYERLY, New York lawyer, with office at 225 Broadway and home at 39 Fifth Avenue

ASA V. CALL, Los Angeles, executive vice-president and general counsel Pacific Mutual Life Insurance Company

DAVID R. CLARKE, Chicago Lawyer
TENT S. CLOW, Lake Forest, Ill, vice-president JAMES B. CLOW & SONS, plumbing
supplies.

W. J. COMBETT, Chicago

HENRY M. CRANE.

THOMAS CREIGH, Chicago lawyer, general attorney for Cudahy Packing Company. W. P. DAAPER. WADE FETZER. Chicago, Insurance. HORACE C. FLANIGAN, Purchase, N.Y., who commented last mights and the "I'm going to double it tomorrow." A. F. GALLUE MR. AND MRS. A. FU GARTZ JR., Chicago EVERETT D. GRAFF, Chicago, first vice-president of JOSEPH T. RYERSON & SONS, iron and steel makers. HENRY GUID, JR. LOUIS'H. HOSBEIN CIAT HUDSON, Chicago lawyer. Mrs. GEORGE T. IANGHORNE, Chicago, wife of Col. LANGHORNE (retired). W. H. PAGNERY, Chicago, textile and window shade manufacturer MRS. CAROLINE H. ROBINSON EDWARD L. RYERSON, Chicago, president of JOSEPH T. RYERSON and Sons. PREDERICK A. O. SCHWARE, Partner in the law firm of Davis, Polk, Wardwell, Gardiner and Reed, and chairman of the board of F.A.O. SCHWARZ, Fifth Avenue toy store. C. R. SHAEFFER. WALTER K. SHAW, Chicago LOUIS STEBER HOWARD A. SMITH HUGO SONNESCHEIN, Chicago Crantson SPRAY, Chicago, lawyer, and Mrs. SPRAY VERNON F. TAYLOR J. G. TIMOLAT, New York Edgar Uihlein, Chicago ERNEST E. WHEELER. LEIGHTON A. WILKIE, Chicago KRHEST A. WILTEE MORRIS B. LEEDS, Philadelphia, president of Leeds & Morthrup Company and inventor of electric and temperature-measuring devices. S. W. LOWRY. KATRIMA MCCORNICK (Mrs. COURTLAND D) BARNES, JR., OF MEW YORK), Mrs. BARNES, who is the daughter of the late UNITED STATES SENATOR MEDILL McCORMICE of Chicago, and Mrs. RUTH HANNA SIMES, daughter of MARK MANNA, said last night she often used her maiden name in business dealings. GARRET W. McENERHEY, San Francisco lawyer. STERLING MORTON, Chicago, secretary and director of the Morton Salt Company EDWARD MUEHLENBROCK, Detroit, ARCHIBALD T. NAUGLE, Chicago and Santa Barbara, California, retired timber merchant. G./J. NIKOLAS, Chicago NICHOIAS H. NOVES, Indianapolis, mamufacturer of pharmacouticals and biological. president of Paper Package Company

JOHN NUVEEN, Chicago broker.

J. SANFORD DTIS, Chicago
ROBERT TREAT PAINE 2nd, Boston, Lawy

ROBERT TREAT PAINE 2nd, Boston, lawyer.

HENRY POPE, Chicago WALLAGE E. PRATT, New York and Frijole, Tex., geologist, wice-president
Humble Oil and Refining Company, of Houston, director and
member of executive committee, Standard Oil of New Jersey.

Other sentributors were THOS. J. CARNEY of Chicago, President of Sears-Roebuck & Co. and ARTHUR S. BARHOWS of Kennilworth, Illinois, Director in the same firm; also JOHN McCUTCHEON, a sertoonist of the Chicago Herald-Tribune, who, with his wife has contributed more than \$100.00.

The same source reports that an analysis of the names of the contributors show that the America First Committee was getting its heaviest report around its home office in Chicago and a sprinkling of industrialists from neighboring states added to the heavyMid-West.

Other contributors were ERNEST T. WEIR of Pittsburg, Pa., Chairman of Mational Steel Corp. and Treasurer of the Mapublican Finance Committee during the 1940 Presidential campaign; Colonel CHARLES A. LIMDBERGH; EDWARD L. RYERSON of Chicago, chairman of the board of the Inland Steel Company; THOMAS W. McCARTER, chairman of the board of the Public Service Corporation in New Jersey; H. L. STUART, of Chicago, president of Halsey, Stuart & Co., the Mid-West's leading investment house; MAI W. BABB, president of Allis Chalmers Company in Milwaukee where a strike is currently tying up work on \$45,000,000 worth of defense orders, and CHARLES H. MORSE of Lake Forest, Ill., chairman of Fairbanks Morse & Co., and Mrs. Morse.

BOSTON

The Boston Globe of February 4, 1941 revealed the following personnel of the Boston Branch of the America First Committee:

JAMES BAYLEY, JR., Temporary Chairman;
MRS. S. SCHIER WELCH of Boston, Secretary-treasurer;
MRS. MARGARET DALY, Headquarters Chairman;
TUDOR GARDINER JR., son of Ex-Gov. TUDOR GARDINER of Maine,

Publicity Chairman; Mrs. EZRA THAYER, Boston WILLIAM S. RALIARD, Medford

Mrs. HAWMAN COMMORS, Milton, president of the American Mothers Neutrality

Mrs. LOUIS ARTHUR COOLINGE, Widow of the late Asst. Secretary of the Trea under President Taft;

Also, Miss HELEN LONGSTREET COOLINGE; WILLIAM B. GALLAGHER, head of the lolst Division, V. F. W.; LESLIE P. HEMRI regional director of the National Council of the American Bar Association; JAMES HERBERT, Winthrop attorney; Mrs. JOSEPH LANGONE; Mrs. ALBERT LEVIE of Dorchester, former president, Italian Women's Clu Miss MARY MEEHAN of Brighton, former assistant commissioner of labor; Capt. JOHN JOSEPH MURPHY, Jamaica Flain, attorney; Mrs. JOHN REGAN of West Roxbury; Mrs. EDA SOJIO of Boston; Mrs. and Mrs. DONALD STARR of Boston; Mrs. MARGARET DA of Hingham. Miss FLORENCE BIRMINGHAM, president and founder of the Mass. Women Political club.

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The national committee includes Gen. ROBERT E. WOOD as acting chairman and J. SANFORD OTIS, Treasurer.

The AMERICA FIRST COMMITTEE of Greater Boston Headquarters were located at 52 Devonshire Street, Boston, Mass. (Telephone Capitol 4144).

ACTIVITIES

The Boston Branch sponsored a public rally at Symphony Hall, Boston, Mass. on February 7, 1941. The chairman of the meeting was TUDOR/GARDINER, JR. and other speakers were JAMES BAYLEY, JR. and Atty. JOHN J. MURPHY. The principal speaker was GENERAL HUGH S. JOHNSON. The meeting was attended by approximately twenty-five hundred individuals.

on April 4, 1941, informed this office that he had attended a meeting of the America First Committee of Greater Boston-date and place not furnished, at which meeting, CLARENCE BARNES exhibited a film entitled, "Which Way America?" M. R. SHAW of Melrose, Mass. spake on "America's Policy in the Present Crisis."

On April 30, 1941 at Symphony Hall, Boston, Mass. the Boston Branch sponsored a public meeting at which Senator BURTON K. WHEELER of Montana was to be the principal speaker. In preparation for this meeting the Boston branch held a luncheon at Patten's Restaurant, Scolly Square, Boston on April 13, 1941 at which they were addressed by Mrs. E. SCHIER WELCH who, according to the Boston Globe of April 12, 1941, stated that one-third of the country was in need even in spite of the war industrial boom. She said a "Bundles for American Committee has been organized at the America First headquarters to supply clothing to these people. Other speakers included State Senator JOSEPH HARRINGTON of Salem, Mass. TUDOR CARDINER, JR.; JAMES HERBERT and JOHN COLTER, former secretary to JUDGE JOHN 1. HIGGIES.

advised at this meeting the following plans were discussed to further the activities of this organization.

Of Breokline was to be in charge of ushers at the above rally, and the following individuals were to contact the designated groups in furtherance of this rallys

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was to contact Women's Italian Club.

--Milton

-- So contact American Legion groups.

-Junior Chamber of Commerce

-to contact a group

-Saint Brendon's Society

-Boston University groups

-Hyde Park groups

107c

also stated that one, are expressed the thought that a cripple should never be placed in the driver's seat because he thinks everyone is against him and that approximately 120 people were present--mostly middle aged, predominently women.

With reference to the above WHEELER meeting, the Boston Globe of April 30, 1941 reflects a lengthy interview with SENATOR WHEELER which is not being quoted here: This article further stated on WHEELER'S arrival in Boston he was received by Governor Saltonstall and Mayor TOBIK and planned to attend a luncheon given by Boston University Law Students at the Boston Bar Association and conference with local America First members and a trip to the Matienal League Base Ball Game, being played in Boston that same afternoon.

The Boston Herald of April 30, 1941 carried a photograph of the following people who are to be ushers at the Symphony Hall rally:

ANNA BONACCORSI
MARY BONACCORSI
FLORA QUINN
VIRGINIA ROBICHEAU

and in this photograph, playing the part of a teacher was PAUL XILLIAN of Cambrid

The Boston Post of May 1, 1941 carried a lengthy article on Senator WHEELER'S speech--this press reporting that approximately 5,000 people attended this meetin

The Boston branch sponsored a public meeting held at Mechanics Bidg. on February 25, 1941 at which the principal speaker was SEMATOR MERAID P. ANYE of North Dakota also Ex Senator RUSH HOLT, W. Virginia. Resolutions were unanymously adopted at this rally calling for the following action.

- 1. That Congress must immediately assert itself and exercise its powers created under the Constitution.
- 2. That the Neutrality act, whose repeal was demanded today in the Senate, must not and will not be repealed.
- 5. That the question of war must be submitted to Congress and not be subject to Executive decree.
- 4. That our soldiers must not be used outside of the Western Hemisphere.

On October 10, 1941 the Boston branch sponsored public rally at Faneuil Hall, Boston at which the following persons spoke:

REVEREND MARK R. SHAW, Melrose

AARON LEVINSTEIN, New York City who was introduced as a friend of the Presidential Candidate, MORMAN THOMAS; JOHN W. REGAN, Headmaster, Dorchest High School for Boys.

following information:

"At a recent weekly meeting of the Christian Front, Roxbury, Masachusetts, the director, Mr. FRANCIS P./ MORAN, reported to the gathering that he was going to attend a meeting sponsored by the subject organisation on Saturday, April

Mr. MORAH further announced that many organisations would participate in this meeting and that several German-American societies were included. Furthermore, the Christian Front would be strongly represented.

26, at which meeting Colonel LIEDBERGH would be the principal speaker.

Mr. MORAE is very fanatical in his demunciations against the ROOSEVELT administration and the Jews."

CAMBRIDGE, MASSACHUSETTS

The Boston Post of May 24, 1941 reflects that the Cambridge America First Committee was to hold the first of its meetings on May 25, 1941 in the Elks Hall, 8 Magazine Street, Cambridge, Mass. The Committee Headquarters were located at 580 Massachusetts Avenue, Central Square, Cambridge, Massachusetts. WILLIAM GALIAGHER was to be the speaker.

SPRINGFIELD, MASSACHUSETTS

According to the Springfield Gazette, May 28, 1941, it reported that the Springfield Chapter of the America First Committee was sponsoring an anti-Warmass meeting at the Springfield Auditorium on May 28 at which the following speakers were to appear:

Representative HAMTILTOH FISH, New York City

KATHLEEN HORRIS, Well-known writer other speakers were to be
as follows: PROF. WILLIAM ORTOW, Chairman, Smith College, Teacher of Economics
JOHN ROSS, Chairman of the Hartford, Commecticut Chapter-Americalirst Committe
MRS. MARION BELIAMY EARNSHOW of Springfield. Also DOUGLAS BRAY, Graduate Studen
of Sociology, Clark University, Worcester, Mass.

The local Committee in charge of the mass meeting included

On December 3, 1941 there was held a public rally at Odd Fellows Hall at which the principal speaker was Senator GERALD P. NYE. It was reported there were approximately 1,000 individuals in attendance. The presiding officer was JAMES BAYLEY, JR. Other speakers included State Senator JAMES B. HARRINGTON at WILLIAM B. GALLAGHER, past commander of Michael Perkins Post, A.L., of Bostone

MINE

the following information:

"At a meeting held August 13, 1941, a speaker, laid emphasis on the fact that the AMERICA FIRST COMMITTEE was not organized in the State of Maine. It was learned that the left on August 16, 1941 for Lucerne, Maine, (presumably on valation), where she is planning to enlist support for a chapter of the A.F.C. This woman is a hard worker, capable of organizing and enlisting interest, indalges in considerable letter writing to Senators, Congressmen and others. (DrivesPontiac, 1941, License I F 52 WI.).

has stated that she 'wouldn't blame soldiers for going A.W.O.L. in the event of war and that her great aunt has a little cabin at Lucerne, Maine, and that they were welcome at any time they wanted. It was secluded and no one would ever find them'.

is a personal friend of Mrs. Burton WHEELER and, with has made many trips to Washington in the interest of 'WOMEN UNITED'."

CONNECTICUT

By letter dated April 24, 1941, The State of Submitted the following information "Debate between Congressman HAMILTON FISH, Jr. of New York and Mayo ADAMS SHATTUCK of Boston, Mass., on "WHAT SHALL AMERICA DO IN THE PRESENT EMERGENCY".

An audience of about 700 persons heard the above Subject Debate in the Hartford High School, Hartford, Connecticut on April 15, 1941, repeatedly breaking into applause, boos and murmurs, and occasionally stamping of feet. Its most prolonged outburst was when Mr. SHATTUCK, New England chairman of the Committee to Defend America by Aiding the Allies, asserted that "we must decide whether we're in or out." "Out of it!" a large section of the crowd yelled. The outc was so sustained that chairman of the meeting rose and declared that he thought "this was a democratic meeting," and Mr. SHATTUCK invited anyons who so desired to some up on the stage and speak. Mr. gallery gave Mr. SHATTUCK considerable applause, but when Representative Fish advocated "aid to Britain short of war and consistent with our own defense," he received a tremendous evation, and whe he mentioned the last war which "we fought to make the world safe for democracy he was greeted with laughter.

There was applause for Mr. FISH whenever he asserted that "we must keep America out of war" and he asserted this many times. He said that American is faced with its greatest issue, the issue of peace or war, and he declared that convoy mean war. He scored the attitude of those who have "one chip on each shoulder and one on the tops of their heads and go out looking for war," and, remarking that thelf or 15 per cent of the people who want to go to war are entitled to their opinions, asked "How about the other 85 per cent."

PRESENT STATUS

The New York Herald-Tribune dated 12/12/41 reported that the America Fist Committee had announced that evening it would dissolve and cease all of its functions at once and urged "all those who have followed its lead to give full support to the war effort of the nation, until peace is attained." According to this article they decided to disband. The decision to disband was reached at a lengthy and closed session of the national committee which met at noon at the home of PAGE HUFTY, National Director or Organisation of America First.

From personal observation of reporting agent, it was observed that the office of the America First Committee on this same date was engaged in closing up its offices and since that time there has been no indication that this organization presently exists.

REFERRED UPON COMPLETION TO THE OFFICE OF ORIGIN

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

PORT MADE AT CHICAGO, TILINOIS DATE WHEN MADE PERIOD FOR		100-1259		
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PITTSBURGH, PA.	5/29/42	5/27,28/42		
			CHARACTER OF CASE	
AMERICA FIRST COMMITTEE			INTERNAL SECURITY - G	
YNOPSIS OF FACTS:	Founder DAVID treasu GORDON	rs listed. Of A.\REED, honor rer; K. D. MAG , executive vi	merica First formed ficers were former : ary chairman; S. R. RUDER, secretary; Jo ce-chairman. Commi	Senator JACKBOR, DHN B. Itee held
•	five m	ass rallies in	Pittsburgh at which	Senators
) on resi	ng LAPULLUTTE, mective occasi	NYE, and CHAIP CLAS	RK spoke
	d broken	up with news	of Fearl Harbor. Co	ommittee
disbanded December 8 with resolution to support				
	war ef	forts.		5
	nlete i	e noer an all	forwarded to Chica	unce and com-
	after d	lisbandment.	In September 1941 K.	D. MAGRUDER
[] []	split v	with America F	irst of which he was	secretary
i	Committe	merica First	charged him with usi anti-British, anti-S	ng the
	gold st	tandard and To	wnsend Plan propagar	da. which
	were se	entiments not	included in America	First pro-
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	bers av	vay from Ameri	ca First. These cor	sisted of
	") a group	of alleged "	Coughlinites". Offi	oers were
1	first t	i H. LEIH, JR.	, president; CHARLES K. D. MAGRUDER, sec	MADDEN,
	This gr	coup also claim	med to have disbande	d 12/8/41.
	No indi	ications of co	ntinued activity on	part of
PROMITO AND		group, nor of	continued communica	tion with
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any national organization.

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REFERENCE:

Bureau letter dated March 16, 1942.

Bureau teletype dated May 11, 1942.

Bureau teletype dated May 26, 1942.

DETAILS:

AT PITTSBURCH, PENNSYLVANIA

The following is a chronological clipping history of the formation and the activities of the America First Committee in Pittsburgh in sofar as those activities were publicly amounced. This clipping history is from the Pittsburgh Sun-Telegraph.

An article dated April 18, 1941, announced the formation of the Pittsburgh chapter of the America First Committee. It stated that the amouncement was made by JOHN E. GCRDON, executive vice-chairman of the new organization. According to the clipping GORDON also announced the dissolution of the Provisional Anti-War Committee of Pittsburgh effective as of April 18, 1941. The article stated that the new Committee was headed by former Senator DAVID A. REED, honorary chairman, and that the officers of the Committee consisted of Attorney CRANT CURRY, treasurer, K. D. MAGRUDER, secretary, and JOHN B. GORDON, executive vice-chairman.

According to an article dated April 29, 1941, K. D. MACRUDER announced that 1600 citizens had petitioned President Roosevelt to refrain from using convoys in shipping goods to Great Britain. MAGRUDER said: "We have been organized less than a week. So many signers in such a short time ought to convince anyone of the state of public opinion in this district." According to the article MACRUDER urged citizens to write to Senator WALTER F. GEORGE, and to ask him to vote against convoys.

According to an article dated May 4, 1941, JOHN B. .

GORDON, executive vice-chairman of the America First Committee extended an invitation to JOSEPH F. GUFFEY, Senator from Permsylvania, to attend a mass meeting to be held in Pittsburgh on May 12, 1941 and to answer the question, "Is not your announced Advocacy of convoys a violation of your pre-election pledge that you would never vote to send American boys to a foreign war?" This article announced further that former Governor PHILIP LaFOLLETTE would be the principal speaker the first mass meeting of the Pittsburgh America First Committee at the NorthSide Carnegie Hall on May 12, 1941.

An article dated May 7, 1941, stated that forms Governor PHILIP LaFOLIETTE was scheduled to speak to the America First Committee

An article dated May 12, 1941, stated that PHILIP LaFOLIETTE talked to the Hungry Club of Pittsburgh on the noon of May 12, 1941, and stated that the fight for freedom in Europe was lost because of man's misuse of the bounty of Almighty God. He urged that generous use of 3¢ stamps could prevent us from getting into war simply by mailing a protest to the President of the United States asking him to keep us out of war.

in article dated May 13, 1941, announced that PHILIP information that principal speaker at the first meeting of the Pittsburgh America First Committee held at the North Side Carnegie Hall on the night of May 12, 1941. The article announced that 2000 people appeared to hear LaFOLLETTE. It further said that during his speech LaFOLLETTE proposed a 6-point plan to put America's house in order. This plan consisted of the following points:

- 1. No involvement in war in Europe or Africa.
- 2. Removal of HENRY L. STIMSON and FRANK KNOX, Secretaries of War and Navy.
- 3. Arming the United States.
- 4. Curing of internal ills, including the return of control over our monetary system and elimination of the theory of over production.
- 5. A job for every American.
- 6. Security for those unable to care for themselves.

An article dated May 13, 1941, described a controversy held between PHILIP LaFOLLETTE who was the principal speaker at the Hungry Club on May 12, 1941, and FREDERICK C. McKEE, the chairman of the Pittsburgh chapter of the Committee to Defend America by Aiding the Allies. The article stated that after the speech by LaFOLLETTE, McKEE asked for and received three minutes in which to answer LaFOLLETTE.

An article dated May 14, 1941, announced that the America First Committee of Pittsburgh were making plans to invite Senator WHEELER and CHARLES A. LINDHERGH to speak in Pittsburgh.

An article dated May 23, 1941, stated that the America First Committee announced the opening of a drive for 25,000 no-war messages to President Roosevelt. The article stated that according to JOHN B. GORDON, executive vice-chairman of the Committee, the Committee had 500 members before LaFOLLETTE spoke in Pittsburgh and that afterward the membership jumped to 5,000 members.

An article dated May 23, 1941, stated that Senator MEXIER would speak at the second mess rally of the America First Committee to be held June 5, 1941. The same article listed a group of 43 Pittsburghers who signed their names to a telegram addressed to former Senator DAVID A. REED, asking him to resign as honorary chairman of the Committee for the reason that some subversive groups support the Committee's objectives. The persons who signed





this telegram according to the article are as follows:

Dr. B. J. HOVDE Rev. CARL HERMANN VOSS Dr. W. A. HAMAR Dr. H. BOYD EDWARDS Dr. W. W. CARLSON Mr. and Mrs. H. B. McKINNEY Mr. and Mrs. W. H. LAPPE Dr. and Mrs. B. R. ALMOUIST Dr. ABIE G. RENFREY Dr. A. T. THOLPSON ANNABELLE TURNER Dr. R. S. TISON AUSTIN C. ROWELL Mr. and Mrs. A. S. CHALFANT Dr. and Mrs. HENRY RAY. Mrs. P. E. HUNTER Mrs. MURY H. GERKEN PAUL SOUMAINE Mr. and Mrs. W. J. GRAHAM Dr. and Mrs. W. F. LARAMORE Mrs. SAMEL ROSENBERG Mr. and Mrs. ELLIOTT P. BARRETT MARIE DAVIDSON Mrs. Janet Walters Miss VICTORIA ALLUUIST Mrs. ANNA KERR Mr. and Mrs. J. R. WILSON Mrs. E. J. UHL

Mr. and Mrs. W. C. GRAHAV Mr. and Mrs. R. K. BRINKER Mr. and Mrs. KENDAIL QUEREY

An article dated May 25, 1941, stated that K. I MAGRUDER made the following statement: "There will be considerable dynamit in the fact that FREDERICK McKEE, chairman of the Committee to Defend Ameri by Aiding the Allies is treasurer of the National Casket Company which bene lately from the government's huge order for caskets." According to the art MAGRUDER was replying to 47 Pittsburghers who asked former Senator DAVID A. to resign from the Committee.

An article dated May 27, 1941, announced that t Soldiers and Sailors Memorial Hall in Pittsburgh was obtained by the Americ First Committee for the "Senator BERTON K. MHERLER Mass Meeting" to be held

June 5, 1941. The amountement was made by JOHN B. GORDON, executive vice-chairs of the Committee who said that the larger hall was necessary due to the over-flew srowd which attended the last mass meeting at the North Side Carnegie Hall. BOH-BON is quoted as saying, "This action (meaning the permission to have the meeting in this particular hall) compares very favorably with the action taken in Philadelphia when LINDHERGH was refused permission to speak in the Academy of Music Hall on the grounds that Communists, Masis, etc., might be present to hear him." GORDON made the statement according to the article that such elements are not eligible for membership in the Pittsburgh chapter of the America First Committee

An article dated May 25, 1941, stated that the use of the Soldiers and Sailors Memorial Hall by the America First Committee was protest by Sergeant WILLIAM J. CREMAN, a city policeman, who was chairman of the Mationa Defense Committee of the Schenley American Legion Post #663. According to the article, CHEHAN had written a letter to the Board of Managers of Memorial Hall saying: "In defense of my protest I say that its use might easily create the impression that the ex-Service men of Pittsburgh are sympathisers and supporters of the program of the so-called America First Committee".

An article dated May 29, 1941, stated that CHARLES A MADDEN, secretary of the Board of Managers of Memorial Hall, said that WILLIAM J CREHAN who protested the use of the Memorial Hall by the America First Committee did not represent the veterans of Pittsburgh but merely expressed his own opinion the article stated that JOHN B. GORDON made the statement that CREHAN spoke only for himself.

An article dated June 1, 1941, stated that Miss LLOYD BRETT, daughter of the late General LLOYD M. BRETT, Commander of the SOth Division, on this day rose to defend the protest of WILLIAM J. CREMAN. She said according to the article: "You speak for hundreds and perhaps thousands who are 100% behind you. We do not want Bundists, Christian frontists, Silver Shirts, and Communists, in our Patriots' Temple." According to the same article Rev. THOMAS R. MURPHI, assistant pastor of St. Canice's Church and a member of the America First Committee stated, "I can see nothing wrong which would descrate the hall by having the distinguished Senator WHEELER speak there."

According to an article dated June 1, 1941, WALTER J. FETTIT, shairman of the Americanism Committee of the Schanley Post #663 of the American Legion, protested the use of Memorial Hall by the America First Committee.

An article dated June 3, 1941, stated that CHARLES A. MADDEN, secretary of the Board of Governors of Memorial Hall, refused to call the permit for a meeting of the America First Committee on June 5, 1941. It the same article it set forth that CHARLES A. MADDEN accused Sergeant MILIAN I CREHAN who made the protest against the renting of the hall to the America First

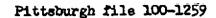
Committee of inviting THOMAS H. WRIGHT who is a Communist who recently addressed American Legion Post \$663 in that same Memorial Hall. MADDEN stated in the article that WRIGHT is listed as a Communist in the American Legion book of Iems and he further stated that WRIGHT was prevented at the time he gave his lecture from distributing propagands concerning "New America" by Mrs. RAIPH ORD, the County Council Chaplain. The article went on to state that another protest against the use of the hall by Senator WREKIER came from Dr. H. BOID EDWARDS, rector of the Church of the Ascension, and also chairman of the Pittsburgh chapter of the Federal Union of Democracy. The article stated that the Federal Union of Democracy would meet on the same night that WHEFLER was to speak and that they would meet at the East Liberty Presbyterian Church and would have DANIEL A. PALING of Philadelphia as their speaker.

Am article dated June 3, 1941, stated that CHARLES A. MADDEN made a definite statement that there was no possibility of the permission granted the America First Committee to meet an June 5, 1941, of being campeled.

An article dated June 5, 1941, announced that J. GUI CRIFFITH of New Kensington, Pernsylvania, made an announcement that the Legional who were going to usher at the America First Committee meeting on the night of 4 5, 1941, have orders not to wear their Legion uniforms. CRIFFITH stated that he received these instructions from RALPH DREGG of the Judge Advocate's Office in Washington.

An article dated June 5, 1941, quoted a statement me by DAVID A. REED in an interview previous to the mass meeting to be held that samight. He was asked what action he planned to take on the telegram received by him from 47 Pittsburghers in which they wrged him to resign from the Committee. His answer was, "An army ean't very well avoid samp followers nor be judged by them."

This article further stated that at the meeting to be held on that night by the America First Committee at the Memorial Hall, DAVI A. REED would introduce Senator WHEELER who was the principal speaker. It went on to state that Reverend LOUIS M. HIRSHOM, rector of St. Stephen's Episeopal Church in Sewickley, Pa., would give the invocation; that Rev. ARVA LEE IGE, pastor of the Wilkinsburg Baptist Church, would take the collection; that Rev. JOHN R. McKAVNEY, pastor of St. John's Evangelist Catholic Church would give the benediction, and that the Grafton, Pa., Community Band would play.



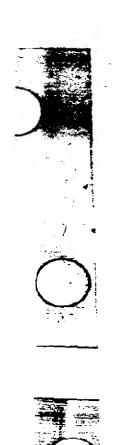
An article dated June 6, 1941 carried an extensive story concerning the meeting held the night before. It stated partly as follows: "Senator Burton K. Wheeler, decrying this nation's sacrifices for Great Britain while 'American children die of maltrition', called on the United States to stay out of war unless the defense of this homeland became involved." The article stated that SENATOR WHEELER brought repeated cheers from a throng of over four thousand people. It further described an incident in which, after an ovation of several minutes in homor of BURTON WHEELER, one Mrs. GRACE EMART, of 2506 Kingwood Street, Overbrook, Pa., stood up and shouted: "The going must be tough if you have to lameduck your way into the Communist Party." After this, several people in the audience yelled: "Throw her out." On one further occapion, when BURTON K. WHEELER said: "The modern Benedict Arnold.....", JAMES EWART, the son of the woman just mentioned, stated before WHEELER could go on: "is Burton K. Wheeler". The article went on to state that a welcoming speech for Senator WHEELER was given by CHARLES A. MADDEN, Secretary of the Board of Managers of Memorial Hall, who said in his speech: "Let there be no more gold star mothers in the United States unless they are defending the shores of the United States and its possessions."

An article dated July 3, 19hl announced that SENATOR DAVII R. REED in an interview made the statement that any claim that the United State would be economically isolated in event of a Hitler victory is nonsense. He said: "Our world trade is not dependent on who likes or dislikes us. It is a matter of business and economic necessity."

An article of July 13, 1941 stated that the America First Committee was circulating petitions for a referendum on whether or not this country would enter war.

An article of July 13, 1941 printed a statement of JOHN B. GORDON, Executive Vice Chairman of the America First Committee of Pittsburg to the effect that the Committee to Defend America by Aiding the Allies has foits purpose the United States' entrance into war. The article quotes CORDON as follows: "The Committee to Defend America by Aiding the Allies now wishes to known as the Committee to Defend America. It is understandable why they was to drop the 'Aiding the Allies' now that Russia is one of them. By they wish to be known as the Committee to Defend America is not so plain. They approve the seizure of Iceland and will approve American bases in Imland and Scotland. What they want is war and not defense."

An article dated July 17, 1941 states that the America First Committee was denied a permit to use a sound truck for the purpose of advertising its third mass rally to be held on July 18, 1941. According to the



article, JOHN B. GORDON made the statement that the Mayor was too busy to see him regarding the failure of the Police Department to give him permission to use a sound truck.

An article of July 18, 1941 stated that STEPHEN A. DAY, one of the outstanding opponents of "Union Now", was the principal speaker at a rally of the Pittsburgh Chapter of the America First Committee held at the North Side Carnegie Hall on July 18, 1941. It is noted that this rally was very little publicized in comparison to previous rallies.

An article dated July 20, 1941 stated that JOHN B. GORDON made a public denial of accusations that at the meeting of July 18, 1941 calls of "impeach Roosevelt" were made at the America First rally. He stated that if such remarks were head, they were individual remarks and did not express the sentiment of the America First Committee.

An article dated August 12, 19hl stated that more than a dozen Pittsburgh mothers were in Washington on that date to picket the Capitol in an attempt to block the passage by the house of representatives of a draft extension. The article stated that the drive on Washington broke out spontaneously at an America First Committee meeting the night before, according to K. D. MAGRUDER, Secretary of the Committee.

An article dated August 17, 1941 quoted JOHN B. GORDON as stating that the America First Committee in Pittsburgh had at that time more than 11,000 members in Pittsburgh. GORDON gave as the reason for the rapid increase in membership the Committee's fight for a referendum on peace or war.

An article of September 16, 1941 told of the resignation from the America First Committee of EMANUEL AMDUR, who had been a member of t Advisory Board of the Committee. AMDUR's reason for resigning was the anti-Semitic speech of CHARLES LINDBERG given a few days before at Des Moines, Iow

An article dated September 28, 19hl stated that the America First Committee had released for publication a letter that it had addressed to Mayor Scully of Pittsburgh asking him that he proclaim October 6 as "America For Feace Day", since he had previously proclaimed June 25th as "Freedom Rally Day". On June 25th, it is to be noted that Colonel WILLIAM DOMOVAE gave a speech at the Syria Mosque in Pittsburgh sponsored by the



Fight For Freedom Committee and the Mayor introduced DONOVAN at this occasion and proclaimed that day as "Freedom Rally Day". Reminding the Mayor of this proclamation, the America First Committee asked that he proclaim the day of their next mass rally as "America For Peace Day".

The article went on to state that Mayor SCULLY refused to honor the request made in this letter and did not even answer it.

An article dated October 3, 1941 states that in view of the refusal of the Mayor to announce October 6th as "America For Peace Day", JOHN B. GORDON announced that the Committee itself would proclaim this day as "America For Peace Day".

An article dated October 4, 1941 announced that SAMUEL HARDEN CHURCH made an announcement that he would only approve the use of the Carnegie Music Hall in Pittsburgh for the meeting of the America First Committe on October 6th if Colonel CHARLES LINDBERG would agree not to come to Pittsburg and speak. CHURCH announced that if LINDBERG were coming to speak, the permiss to hold the meeting at Carnegie Music Hall would not be given.

An article dated October 4, 1941 announced that Reverend CARL H. VOSS denounced Colonel LINDBERG and the America First Committee, charg them with spreading the virus of race hatred in a letter released to his congregation.

An article dated October 5, 19hl gave a public denouncement by SENATOR DAVID A. REED, who lashed at Reverend CARL H. VOSS' remarks of a fedges before about religion in Russia. Senator REED called upon Americans to repudiate all attempts to Stalinize or Hitlerize our constitution.

An article dated October 5, 19hl carried a public announcement by JOHN B. CORDON of the America First Committee branding as libel the letter of Reverend C. H. VOSS and claimed that the America First Committee is not against any race.

An article dated October 6, 19hl announced a public mass meeting and a parade on October 6, 19hl by the America First Committee. It: noted that this is the fourth mass rally of the Committee in Pittsburgh.

An article dated October ?, 19hl gave a several column account of the public mass meeting of the America First Committee at Carnegic Music Hall on the right before. It stated that more than 2,000 people cheered Senator BENNETT CHAMP CLARK's attack on war. Much of the discussion was given



to a description of how the EWART family for the second time heckled the America First meeting. The EWART family, consisting of Mr. and Mrs. EWART and their son JAMES, continually heckled the speakers at this meeting.

An article dated October 8, 1941 told of the America First Committee's action in sending a record containing speeches in favor of America First policy to the EWART family, so that they would be able to heckle America First speeches without being rude to Senators of the United States.

An article dated October 11, 19hl carried a denial by the Committee to Defend America by Aiding the Allies of any part of the action of the EWART family in heckling America First Committee meetings.

An article dated October 16, 1941 announced that the America First Committee had made additions to its Advisory Board as follows:

GEORGE F. OTTO
R. A. MacDOWELL
Wrs. DRATON HEARD
Wrs. J. SCOTT THORNTON

An article dated October 16, 1941 announced that two America First branch meetings had been scheduled in the Pittsburgh District for that day. One of these was held in East Carnegie in Republican Hall. It announced that Reverend THOMAS R. MURPHY of St. Canice's Church gave the invocation and that the speakers were:



K. D. MACRUDER
CHARLES A. MADDEN
16-year-old DON/MCCORNICK
Reverend Dr. HODGE M./ EAGLESON

The other meeting, according to this article, was held at the home of Mrs. ELIZABETH J. MILLER of 130 Third Street, Aspinwall, Pa. The speaker at this meeting was CHARLES SNYDER, who, according to the article, organised the America First Chapter at Wheaton College.

The article further stated that CHARLES WADDEN had addressed an America First group, who met at the home of Mrs. WARK CAMPBELL of Glasgow Road, Valencia, Pa.

An article dated October 23, 1941 announced that KENNETH D. [MACRUDER, Former Secretary of the America First Committee in Pittsburgh, made the assertion that he was quitting the America First Committee because of the fact that JOHN B. GORDON tried to act as too much of a dictator. The arti stated that MACRUDER was a charter member of the America First Committee in Pittsburgh and that he and other persons who had become disgruntled with the leadership of the America First Committee had decided to leave the Committee and had threatened to rally the disgruntled elements into a rival society. This article stated that MAGRUDER resides at 5562 Hobart Street. It quoted MAGRUDER as saying: "There has been trouble from the start. We have looked on this as a people's government. With Gordon it has been a closed corporation The article further said that MACHUDER made the statement that GORDON tried to prevent meetings of the Committee's organizers and tried to invoke regulations in a constitution which had never been ratified by the members. The same article gave JOHN B. GORDON's reply to these charges made by MAGRUDER. GORDON stated that the issue was not dictatorship on his part but that certain element were not permitted by him to bring anti-Semitic, anti-British and anti-gold standard views before the public in the name of the America First Committee, since these santiments were not an official part of the program of the America First Committee. JOHN GORDON made the further statement that the America First Committee would be refreshed by the departum of the elements that tend to give the Committee a black eye. GORDON was supported by CLATYPUGH, a member of the National Office of the America First Committee, who said in a letter to MACRUD *The large Monday night meetings are to be discontinued. At your next Monday meeting on October 20th you are to instruct this group that there will be no more assemblages of this sort." In the same letter PUGH indicated, according to the report, that there were other issues involved and the letter went on to say: "You know that we will not permit membership of Nazis, Bundists, Fascis" or Communists in this organization. The article went on to state that MAGRUD had said that he did not know when or where he would hold the first rally of his new organization. He said that it would depend upon conversations he wou have with some of his friends. The article went on to state that JOHN B. GOR said that WACRUDER's group represented onlyabout 3/10 of one per cent of the membership of the America First Committee.

An article dated October 2h, 19hl carried a release by t America First Committee which challenged the "Fight For Freedom Committee" to introduce a declaration of war resolution into Congress and see what would happen to it.

An article dated October 25, 1941 carried an answer by K. D. KAGRUDER to the charges made by JOHN.B. GORDON and CLAI FUGH against h when he split with the America First Committee. MAGRUDER stated that he did



not know of anyone in his group who had been a Townsendite. It is noted that among the charges of GORDON was the charge that Townsend Plan propaganda was being spread by the Magruder group. Concerning PUGH, MAGRUDER said: "To me, Mr. PUGH said that nobody could be a good American without being pro-British and that anybody not pro-British must be pro-Nazi."

An article dated November 3, 1941 compared the activities of the two committees in Pittsburgh, namely the America First Committee and "The Committee for America Only", the latter of which had been established by K. D. MAGRUDER after he had split with the America First Committee. This article said: "Divided as to methods but united as to objectives, the America First Committee and the Committee for America Only both fought against repeal of the Neutrality Act today. The America First Committee, led by J. B. GORDC took the moderate measure of presenting a petition signed by 4,171 persons to Senators NYE and WHEELER. The Committee for America Only, favoring more energetic methods, heard its leaders, WILLIAM H. WEIR, JR., and KENNETH D. MAGRUDER, advocate a march on the capital in Washington, to put the fear of God into the Representatives." The same article went on to state that an America First national meeting had been held in Washington and had been attended by the following persons from Pittsburgh:

Dr. JOHN W. BRANDT
M. E. ARMERUSTER, Secretary (apparently
ARMERUSTER replaced K. D. MAGRUI
as Secretary of the America Firs
Committee)
Attorney CRAIG T. WOOD

An article dated November 14, 1941 announced that GORDON spoke on November 13, 1941 at an America First meeting at Spring School at Allentown, Pa., at which he said that the real purpose of the Neutrality Act rescission was to get America into war.

An article dated Desember 5, 1941 stated that Senator MYE, C. HALE SIPE and INENE CASTIE MCLAUGHLIN would speak at an America First Rally on December 7.

We further information was sontained in the morgue of the Sun Telegraph. Continued activities of the America First Committee, however, were reported as follows in the other Pittsburgh newspapers.

An article in the Pittsburgh Post Gasette, dated December 4, 1941 announced that Senator NYE would talk to the America First Committee, with "Christianity and Intervention" as the theme of the meeting. It announced that this meeting would take place at the Soldiers and Sailors Memorial Hall in Cakland on Sunday afternoon, December 7. The article went on to quote JOHN B. GORDON as saying: "The American people are not going to war unless they are convinced it is their duty to God and country. Therefore, we have selected an appropriate theme for our Sunday meeting. The American people will not plunge the world into a blood bath over tin mines in the Orient or rubber plantations in some obscure jungle. All the double-talk and power politics of all the interventionists will not change the fact that we are wiser now than we were in 1917."

in article in the Pittsburgh Fost Gasette, dated December 8, 1941 carried a full account of the last of the open rallies held by the Americ First Committee in Fittsburgh. The article stated that approximately 2500 Fittsburgh people sat in the Soldiers and Seilors Memorial Hall for two and one-half turbulent hours before their leaders, headed by Senator GERALD P. NYE, told them about the war with Japan. The article went on to state that during Senator MYE'S anti-war speech, a reporter silently approached the stage and placed a note on the rostrum before him, telling him of the attack on Pearl Harbor. The article stated that Senator NYE kept on talking for over fifteen minutes before he gave the news to the people in attendance, and when he did so, stated that he could hardly believe the news. When it was evident that the news was true he said "If Congress were to declare war, I am sure that every America Pirst would be cooperating and supporting his government in the winning of thatwar, ir every way possible, but I should not expect them to disband, even if Congress de clares war. At this meeting the EWART family, mentioned before, appeared for th third time, to beckle the America Firsters, and almost caused a riot. Several (the America Firsters attempted to give the son of the EMARTS a physical beating when he ran up on the stage and grabbed the microphone out of the hands of the speaker.

During a speech by Senator C. HALE SIFE, Colonel ENRIQUE URRUTRIA, white-haired Chief of the Second Military Area, of the Organized Reserves, jumped from his aisle seat, well back in the auditorium and yelled out "Can this meeting be called after what has happened in the last few hours? Do you know that Japan has attacked Hawaii?" Cries of "Throw him out, throw him o

were heard all through the misles. The Colonel then left the hall under a police guard, and after he left, Senator SIPE said "Don't be too hard on this poor bombastic man. He is only a mouthpiece for FRANKLIN D. ROOSEVELT - only another sounding board for the war mongers."

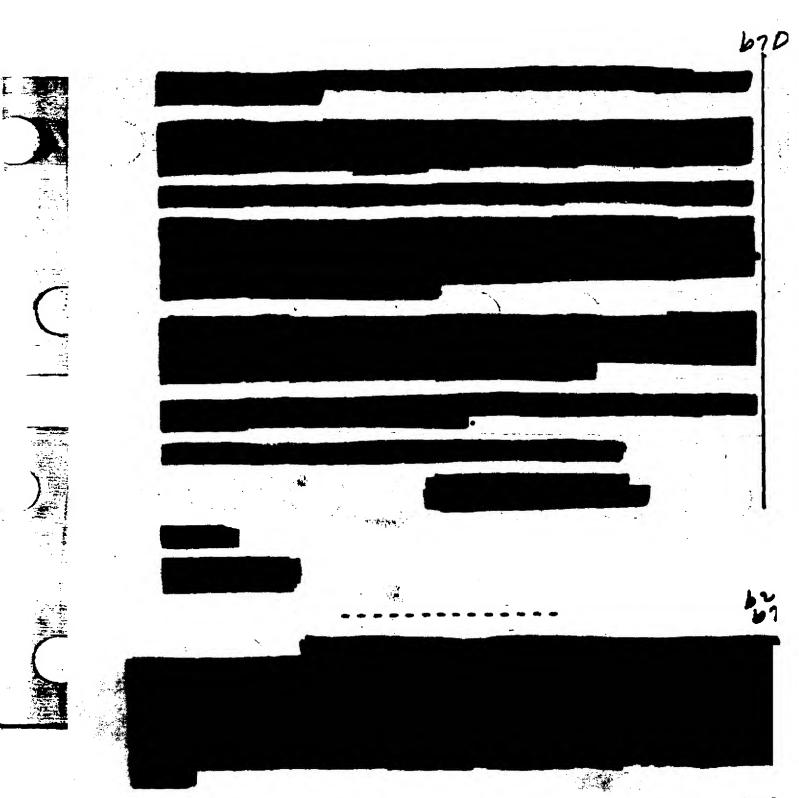
This newspaper clipping is being retained in the Pittsburgh file.

Later in the evening, Senator NYE gave another speech before the First Baptist Church in Pittsburgh. In his speech he said: "There is nothing Americans can do but accept the challenge and move forward with American lives, blood and money to the protection of our people and possessions in the Pacific." He said further: "There is nothing to do but declare war."

In the Pittsburgh Post Gazette on December 9, 1941, there was an article entitled "America First Unit Bows Out of Picture." This article stated that in a record twelve minute session, the Advisory Board of the Pittsburgh America First Chapter on the evening of December 8, 1941, formally dissolve and the 15,000 members it claimed were pledged "To unity of support of the government in the prosecution of the war." The Board, with fifteen members attending, voted unanimously to dissolve, after the reading of a resolution introduced by Senator DAVID A. REED, Honorary Chairman. Senator REED told the board he had "man apologies for trying to keep his nation at peace." "There is nothing for us to do", he claimed, "but our American duty now that the Japanese have started the war." According to the article, dismantling of the headquarters of the America First Committee at 629 Liberty Avenue, Pittsburgh, started as early as the morning of December 8, 1941, according to Executive Chairman, JOHN B. GORDON.

Ho further newspaper history is contained regarding the subject organization.





Headquerters of the America First Committee and dated February 6, 1942 in which was enclosed a check for \$447.00, the balance of the money left over in the Pitt

burgh Chapter Treasury, in which was enclosed also, the complete membership list of the Pittsburgh Chapter of the Committee, and in which a statement was made that the Pittsburgh Committee thereby had wound up all its affairs, and from that time on would cease to engage in any activities.

been no activity after December 8, when the Committee officially disbanded, except the paying of bills and the clearing up of certain financial obligations, which the Committee had.

advised that he was and would be unable to supply

and did not intend to engage any further in any of the activities of the America First Committee. He stated that to his knowledge, this was the sentiment of all the members of the America First Committee in Pittsburgh, and that he had no knowledge of any activity whatsoever, since the official disbandment of the Committee. He stated, however, that a group of persons whom he knew as "Doughlinites", headed by KENNETH MAGRUDER, had broken away from the Committee after a series of clashes, in which the so-called "Coughlinites" attempted to inject into the policies of the America First Committee, certain anti-Jewish, anti-British, anti-Gold Standard and Townsend Plan propaganda. He stated that MAGRUDE split from the America First Committee and took with him approximately 100 members, with whom he formed a new Committee known as "The Committee for America Only He stated that it was highly possible that these persons continued to meet, although they, too, announced an official disbandment. He said that if they were meeting, they were doing so in private homes of some of the members.

An attempt will be made by the furnish this office with as many names as possible of those who broke away from the America First Committee, after being charged with attempting to insert propagands of an unsavery nature.

the good members of the America First Committee had no contact with any national organisation, nor do they intend to continue in any way, the activities of the America First Committee. He stated that they intend in no way to keep the organisation intact in Pittsburgh, and as a matter of fact, since the official disbandment of them, he and the other members of the Committee known to him, have not met or discussed or engaged in any activities whatsoever.

known to the Bureau, attended the America First Committee Rally on June 5, 1941. At this meeting, he obtained a contribution envelope, on the outside of which was the following: "America Fir Committee is open to all patriotic American citizens. We exclude from our rolls Fascists, Nazis, Communists and members of the Bund." According to the large percentage of the attendance of this meeting, however, was German or German-Amer

can. These persons were known to him as being Ermans. He stated that the Steuben Society furnished a very large part of the audience, as did practically all of the different German societies and Bunds in Pittsburgh. He stated further that this meeting was very widely published in all German circles. He stated that from Homestead, Pa. alone, there were about 200 Germans present.

With reference to the personal sentiments of certain of the individual members of the America First Committee who appeared on the Advisory Board, or as being very close to it,

The following are the letters:

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*Dear Sire

"Your recent propaganda sheet labeled "News Release" has just been received, and I note that you refer to a \$60,000,000 being spent here as 'reported by the press' being spent by totalitarian governments. Why, sir, don't/have the common decency and honesty to also admit that Britain's officials admitted that during the last war they spent \$150,000.000. and referred to it as the 'best investment' they made, which was obviously correct. We are advised that already they have provided even greater sums - why don't you make some mention of these things, mir? I am a scientist, a field where the truth and unbiased statements hold - I judge in your propagands line these policies are untenable.

Within the past two years I have been in Europe and visited many of its countries, including Germany - I know full well just how distorted the picture is made to Americans - I have experienced that America's free press refuses to print one word revealing the other side of the story, thanks to the semetic guidance of our news instrumentalities.

"Won't you please ask Mr. White and won't you please explain in your next letter just how it is that while Britain fights for all your grand things, yet for years she has tried to woo rad, communist, athiest Russia as her military and economic ally? Won't you please, too, quote what Mr. Churchill had to say about old U.S.A., last time "To Save Democracy"?

This is written by one who had served in our reserve officers corps, one of an American family for nearly two hundred years, but who can recognize the same old crap of last war days, redressed.

Wery truly,

/•/

22 July, 1940

It is noted that

Dear Sira:

"It is with deep sincerity that I <u>critize</u> the stand , you have taken in regard to our national defense and aid for the Allies. Although fabulous sums have been spent for our defense in the past eight years, President Roosevelt advises us that we are practically defenseless. With this knowledge of this startling fact, and without the approval of Congress, aid has been sent to the Allies.

*The British Empire covers one fourth of the earth's surface. It has the richest domains in the world - all sending dividends and resources home to London at this time. Why, then should a defenseless country with an unbalanced budget send their 'obsolete' war equipment to such a country? What financial arrangements are made for the payment of this equipment that is now being sent?

"Most of the people taking the stand you take are past the war age and claim that they want to continue living in a Democracy as they have in the past. We young people just want a chance to keep on living. Give us that chance and we will see to it that this country remains a democracy."

"Yours very truly

/8/

It will also be noted that

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donations were given to the America First Committee to help it get started, and that thereafter all donations were small and insignificant. The three sizeable donations were \$100.00 from that there were no donations which noticeably came from groups suspected of being Nazi or Communistic.

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THE COMMITTEE FOR AMERICA ONLY

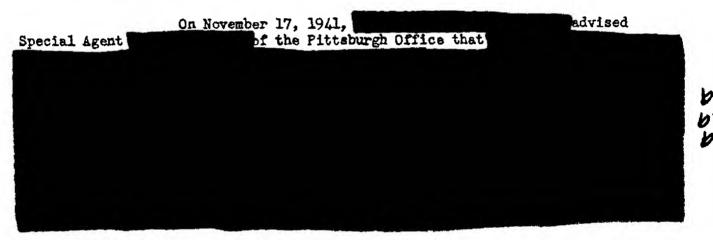
An article in the Pittsburgh Sum-Telegraph, dated October 27, 1941 stated that a new anti-war group, which broke away from the America First Committee, had been formed and was headed by WILLIAM H. WEIR, JR. a strong supporter of the Townsend Old Age Pension Plan. The article stated that WEIR was elected Chairman at the first meeting of the new group, which called themselves "The Committee for America Only." The article went on to say that WEIR has run unsuccessfully for the City Council and for Congress on the Republican ticket. It stated that he has also been President of the National Recovery Association, which is interested in old age pensions. The article went on to state that CHARLES A. MADDEN (Secretary of the Board of Governors of the Soldiers and Sailors Memorial Hall in Pittsburgh) was elected First Vice Chairman of the new group. It stated that MADDEN is active in Veterans groups, was Chairman of the Veterans Division of the America First Committee, and in 1938 was the Democratic candidate for Congress in Pittsburgh. The article further stated that K. D. MAGRUDER, who led the revolt against the America First Committee, charging that he did not submit to dictators, and who describes himself as a criminologist, and historian, as well as a social worker, was elected Secretary of the new group The first meeting of the new group, according to the article, was held at the home of CHARLES MADDEN, 301 South Negley Avenue, East End, Pittsburgh. The other officers elected at the meeting were, Miss MAGDALENE E. McLUCKIE, Second Vice Chairman and Mrs. MYRTLE COLLINS, Treasurer. The article quoted MAGRUDER as saying that 25 persons attended the meeting, and that they are only part of those who revolted from the America First Committee. He said also "We drew up our Constitution. It is a peoples' Constitution, such as we were told we could not have in the America First Committee. This group was not formed to act againthe interests of the America First Committee. The Committee for America Only is not a rival of the America First Committee. Actually, we shall be broadening the work of the America First Committee.

An article dated October 30, 1941 in the Pittsburgh Sun Telegraph, stated that the Committee for America Only had scheduled a mass meeting for 3:00 P.M. on that date in the ballroom of the Keystone Hotel. No further record on this meeting is had.

An article in the Pittsburgh Sun Telegraph, dated November 10, 1941 stated that Pittsburgh's America Only Committee was sponsoring a march on Washington on that night, to stage a protest on the next day. The article stated "The scion of the America First Committee, which declared itself independent from the America First Committee, because they were "tired of just writing letters" would meet other peace groups on the capital steps and demonstrat According to the article, leading the delegation were WILLIAM J. WEIR, Chairman of the America Only Committee, Mrs. MARIE NOHLE and K. D. MAGRUDER.

According to a Pittsburgh Sun Telegraph article dated November 17, 1941, K. D. MAGRUDER, Secretary for Pittsburgh's Committee for Ame ca Only, advocated the lifting of the British Food Embargo imposed on Masi Conq nations in Europe. He said "Starvation and resultant pestilence make fertile ground for the growth of dictatorship, and they invite bitterness against the nation or nations responsible for this slow murder."

known to the Bureau, advised on December 9, 1941, that the Committee for America Only, during the middle of November, opened a storeroom at 210 Stanwix Street. He said that this group had previously been affiliated with the America First Committee and that K. D. MAGRUDER became the Secretary of the new group. Stated that when MAGRUDER was in charge of the America First Committee at 629 Liberty Avenue, quite a few of the pro-German and Nazi element visited him there frequently, and some of them became quite friendly with him, and tried to impress him with the work they were doing for America First. He went on to say that very often they would get some printed matter from MAGRUDER to distribute among their friends. Added that when the office of the new group was opened, MAGRUDER had quite a few visitors from the pro-German element, who seemed to show a preference for MAGRUDER.

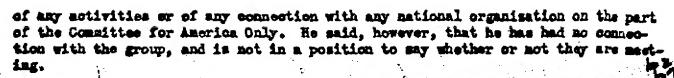


An article in the Pittsburgh Post-Gazette dated Monday, December 8, 1941, stated that according to K. D. MAGRUDER, the America Only Committee, an offshoot of the America First Committee, hopes "To go on serving the best interests of America, if the Government will let us." The article went on to quote MAGRUDER as saying, "But I expect the Government will not tolerate any organization that was connected with America First." Decision on whether to disband America Only will be made at an Executive Committee Meeting," MAGRUDER said.

An article in the Pittsburgh Post-Gazette dated December 9, 1941, which announced the dissolution of the America First Committee, also made the following announcement: "The Committee for America Only, rebel offspring of The America First Group, decided at an Executive Meeting last night, to suspend activities for the duration of thewar. When Secretary K. D. MAGRUDER, the organization's sponsor, was asked whether that meant dissolution, he replied that "we will in effect be hibernating, ready to serve the nation again, whenever the need may arise."

advised that he has no knowledge

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On Movember 19, 1941,

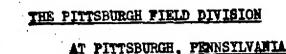
WILLIAM W. WEIR, JR. Chairman, CHARLES A. MADDEN, Vice Chairman and K. D. MAGRUDER, Secretary.

The following literature is being added to the file:

- 1. A small pemphlet entitled "Self Evidenced Truths about Unalianable Rights" by KENNETF DAWN MAGRUDER
- 2. America First, according to George Washington, published by the mational office of the America Pirst Committee
- 3. America First Committee Aims and Activities, published by the national office of the America First Committee
- 4. The America First Committee The Nazi Transmission Belt, published by Friends of Democracy, Inc., 103 Park Ave., New York City.
- 5. A throw-away, critisising FUAK KNOX, published by the national headquarters of the America First Committee
- 6. Box score of Our Peril, published by the national headquarters of the America First Committee
- 7. A contribution envelope of America First Committee, 629 Liberty Ave., Pittsburgh, stating that the Committee excludes from their rolls, Fascista Nazis, Communists and members of the Bund.

It is noted that the America First Committee (Pittsburgh Chapter) published a paper called "America First Herald". This paper appeared in only four issues, the first dated September 26, 1941. Two copies of this paper are in the Pittsburgh file. An attempt will be made to get all issues of this, and forward the same to the Bureau.

UNDEVELOPED LEADS



Will attempt to set out further identification and personal history of various members of the America First Committee.

Will attempt to ascertain whether or not the group which broke away from the America First Committee is still meeting in Pittaburgh, or whether or not any part of the America First Committee is still meeting in Pittaburgh.

Will obtain copies of all issues of the paper, "America Fire Herald", and will forward copies of the same to the Bureau.

Will contact for a list of those persons who left the America First Committee.

-PENDING -

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION FOIPA DELETED PAGE INFORMATION SHEET

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